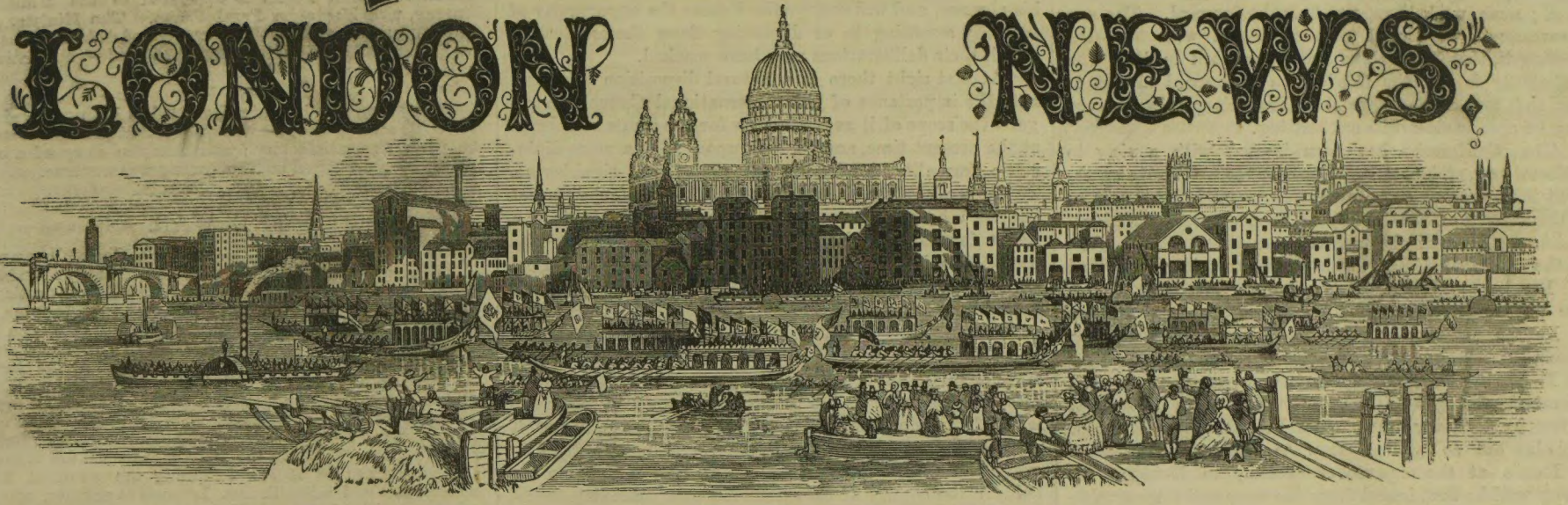


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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PRICE FIVEPENCE



FRENCH PRISONERS ON THE ROAD BETWEEN ETAMPES AND ORLEANS.

THE CONFERENCE.

The Conference for the Revision of the Treaty of Paris, 1856, held its first meeting on Tuesday last, at the Foreign Office. This, we believe, together with the statement that it adjourned to the 24th inst., is all that there is to say respecting this European Council. No business was transacted; none, we believe, was brought forward. The one circumstance worthy of note connected with this first meeting is, that France was not represented in it. The probability is that the Conference adjourned almost as soon as it met, in the hope that France's plenipotentiary may be able to attend its next sitting.

The Conference has been invited with a view to deliberate on, and, if possible, to come to a friendly agreement in respect of, certain complaints made by Russia as to the bearing of the Treaty of 1856 upon her national position. It will be remembered that, at the close of the Crimean War, which was certainly provoked by Russian ambition, that gigantic Northern Power was put under a restraint by the other great Powers of Europe, necessarily partaking of a penal character. Russia had broken the peace of Europe by crossing the Pruth, in the same violent fashion as Napoleon III. disturbed the public tranquillity of the European system by declaring war against Prussia. The Emperor Nicholas did so with a view to the aggrandisement of Russia at the expense of Turkey in Europe. A strong warlike fleet issued from the supposed impregnable port and arsenal of Sebastopol, and, taking the fleet of Turkey at a disadvantage, practically destroyed it. When the war arising out of these events was brought to an issue adverse to the designs of Russia, it was both natural and fitting that the Power which for a merely selfish end had defied the strength of the other Powers of Europe should be placed under conditions intended so far to restrict its natural rights as to prevent the possibility of a like irruption in future. Sebastopol was destroyed, and Russia was bound by treaty not to rebuild it. The Black Sea, which washes the southern coasts of Russia, was neutralised, and no ships of war beyond the number of six, and these of a small size, were permitted to appear in the waters of the Euxine.

No doubt, this has been a humiliation to Russia. All other Powers are free to have what navy they please within their own waters. For fourteen years Russia has been made an exception, and, until recently, has quietly submitted to the restraint imposed upon her. A few weeks ago, however, she took advantage of the supposed annihilation of the French power by the capitulation of Metz to announce her intention no longer to abide by the Treaty of 1856, so far as it related to the neutralisation of the Black Sea, and henceforth to treat the provisions of it which had that end in view as of no force. Europe was struck with astonishment at the effrontery of this declaration. There was no indisposition anywhere to reconsider the stipulations of the treaty in the interest of Russia, nor to relieve her from the pressure of such of them as were penal in their nature, on the understanding that all the parties to the treaty should be properly invoked to give their consent to that release. But Earl Granville, on the part of this country, led the way in protesting against the assumed right of any one signatory to set aside at his own will an international agreement made between several Powers, and dealt with the announcement of Russia as of no effect.

In assuming a right to abolish her own treaty engagements, there can be no doubt that Russia counted upon some general understanding she had arrived at with Prussia that the latter Power would assist her in effecting her wishes. She deprived herself, however, of the benefit which it might have given her by her own impatient and premature action. Count Bismarck, no less than the leading statesmen of other European Powers, was taken by surprise. Prussia had enough upon her hands to task all her energies to the utmost, without precipitating another war in which she would have been held bound to take part. Count Bismarck, therefore, counselled Russia to be patient and moderate, and proposed the convening of a Conference as the likeliest means of achieving without offence, and with the full concurrence of all the signatory Powers, the object upon which she had set her heart. Finding herself alone as to the method she had adopted for gaining her ends, she listened to reason, and consented to ask as a boon what she had previously declared her intention of taking as a right. Invitations were thereupon issued by Earl Granville to the other signatory Powers, all of which consented to attend, on the full understanding that they should enter the Conference wholly unpledged.

Some delay has arisen in the assembling of the Conference in consequence of the anomalous position of France. The provisional nature of the existing Government has not, it is true, prevented France from being represented at this gathering of Plenipotentiaries, inasmuch as a formal invitation has been sent to the Government of Defence, and has been accepted by that Government; but M. Jules Favre, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, whom his colleagues have requested to appear for France on the occasion, feels himself unable to quit the side of General Trochu at the moment when Paris is undergoing actual bombardment. No one can blame him for the reluctance he has expressed to quit the spot on which the primary duties and responsibilities of his office call for his continued presence. Hence the adjournment of the Conference on Tuesday last without any attempt to enter

upon the business for which it was convened. Sufficient respect has been paid to France in the difficult position which she now occupies by giving another week for the possible appearance of M. Jules Favre in London. If, as is most likely, he finds himself unable to quit Paris meanwhile, the Conference will probably proceed to business in his absence, and will reserve for France the opportunity of formally assenting to or dissenting from the conclusions which their deliberations may have reached.

At first sight there is a natural disposition to underestimate the importance of this International Council, to regard the scope of it as too narrow for the wants of Europe at the present time, and to look upon it as a mere diplomatic formality, having no serious political significance. To us, we confess, it presents itself in a far different light. Whatever it may do, or may fail to do, it is a return for the time being, and with a view to a special result, to a legal and peaceful system of settling international differences. It is the substitution of diplomatic for military action. It marks, we think, a general indisposition to proceed further in the path of lawless power. It is, so far, a protest against the fashion of cutting asunder all knotty questions by the sword. It moreover places this country in the position of dignity to which she is entitled. England desires to avoid war so long as it may be honourably avoided; but she is not prepared to evade the duties imposed upon her by the position she holds in the comity of European nations. She has, therefore, taken the lead in essaying an adjustment of a very threatening state of international relations by another method than that relied upon by the great military monarchies of the Continent. In doing so she has brought back the Powers within the region of self-restraint, moderation, reason, and mutual respect. Should she succeed in the special object of her peaceful intervention (limited as that may be), she will probably have cut off from the Franco-German war the worst consequences that seemed likely to result from its contagious influence. There was a danger of passion getting the mastery over the affairs of Europe, and settling them by the standard of brute force rather than of reason. England has stood, we may say, between the living and the dead—between that mode of settling disputes which does homage to the higher attributes of humanity and that which entails death and destruction. She has swung aloft the censer of moral influence, and there seems reason to hope that the plague will be stayed. The end of the present war, we trust, will be followed by a general horror of war; and the Conference, which was called merely to revise the Treaty of 1856, will not have attained its object without having placed all treaty obligations upon a higher and more sacred footing.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

GERMANY.

King William of Prussia was on Wednesday proclaimed Emperor of Germany in the Hall of Mirrors, in the Palace of the French Kings, Versailles, in the presence of all the German Princes, under the standards of the army before Paris and surrounded by the representatives of the different regiments. The King, in a proclamation addressed to the German people, accepts the Imperial Crown of Germany. Great rejoicing took place in Berlin on Wednesday when the fact became known, and at night the city was illuminated. His Majesty says he regards it as a duty he owes to the entire Fatherland to accept the dignity of Emperor, in compliance with the request of the German people; and he hopes "that it will be granted to the German people to enjoy in lasting peace the reward of its arduous and heroic struggles within boundaries which will give to the Fatherland that security against renewed French attacks which it has lacked for centuries."

In the sitting of the Berlin Lower House, on Tuesday, the debate on the Budget of 1871 was closed, the Government measures having been sanctioned in their integrity.

The Bavarian Lower House has been engaged in a debate on the Federal treaties. On Wednesday Herren Huttler, Frankenberger, and Wülfert spoke in favour of the treaties. Herr Kobb opposed. Herr Huttler said:—"The King of Bavaria took the initiative in offering the Imperial Crown. Where the King is true patriots ought to be." The final motion from the patriotic side was strongly opposed and rejected by a large majority.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

It is stated that Baron Schweinitz has handed Count Beust a despatch, in which Count Bismarck expresses his Majesty's pleasure at the Emperor's magnanimous friendship, of which Count Beust's last despatch was gratifying evidence.

The Austrian Delegation have been discussing the Army estimates. The Minister for War urged the necessity for keeping up an efficient army in view of the present aspect of affairs. The estimates were finally agreed to. In Wednesday's sitting the debate on the Budget of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs was resumed. All the clauses were voted in conformity with the propositions of the committee. The secret-service money was likewise voted, as proposed by the committee, after a warm discussion.

The Government has decided not to abandon the plan for an international exhibition, to be held at Vienna in 1873, and have appointed an executive committee under the presidency of Baron von Schwartz.

From Pesth we learn that the appeal in the case of Prince Krageorgewich was decided on Saturday last. The Prince was condemned to eight years', and his accomplices, Trifkovics and Stankovits, to four years' close confinement, but not in irons. The prisoners were also condemned to pay the cost of the trial and of their maintenance while in prison.

SWEDEN.

The Reichstag was opened on Wednesday. The Speech from the Throne, after alluding to the present war and to the possibility of its spreading, points to the question of army organisation as the most important and most pressing. A bill containing an exhaustive plan of army reorganisation, and based on that of 1869, with the principle of general liability to military service, is announced, as well as a war tax for the pur-

chase of war material and the erection of fortresses. Of other important bills, those for a new currency system, for the extension of railways, and for the repeal of the tax on the manufacture of iron are mentioned.

TURKEY.

Ministerial changes are reported from Constantinople. Mehemet Ruchdi Pacha is appointed to the Ministry of Finance, vice Mustapha Fazyl Pacha. The Ministry of the Interior remains vacant. The reports of differences between the Sultan and the Khedive are again denied—"emphatically," the telegram says.

CHINA.

A telegram, dated Pekin, Dec. 31, has been received from Mr. Wade stating that all was quiet; that the last news from the ports was satisfactory; and that the story of a chapel having been destroyed at Newchwang was not true.

THE WAR.

The defeat and final expulsion of General Chanzy's army from its strong position at Le Mans, which took place on Wednesday week, as stated in our last, has been followed by his retirement farther to the west, falling back on Laval and Mayenne, with the intention, probably, of getting some assistance from Cherbourg or Havre, and holding the peninsula of Brittany against the German advance. Alençon was occupied by the Germans last Tuesday. The victory won by the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg last week, terminating a series of obstinate conflicts along the road to Le Mans and upon the banks of the river Huisne, seems to have been most complete. The number of French prisoners taken in the fighting from the 6th to the 12th inst. is reckoned at 20,000, including the wounded, besides twelve guns and mitrailleuses, locomotive-engines, waggons, and stores. The battle of Wednesday week, however, which led to the evacuation of Le Mans next day, had not seemed to be so decisive when fought. The Germans had struck off one body of Chanzy's troops from his left, compelling them to retreat towards Alençon and the north, and had made some impression also on his right; but about Le Mans itself the French had not lost ground; and as night set in the Germans retired to their defensive positions. While the French were under the belief that nothing more would be done until the morning, their troops occupying the height of La Tuillerie, on the left bank of the Huisne, were surprised at midnight by a formidable attack with artillery. Officers and men were completely disconcerted. The subaltern officers in command were too dismayed to give orders; and the inexperienced troops, not knowing what to do, were fain to retire. Horses were precipitately harnessed to the guns defending their battery, and the column commenced to retreat, the men not halting until they reached the town, down the streets of which they spread panic and dismay. The troops which fled so disastrously were Bretons, of the Mobilised National Guard. General Chanzy was indisposed on this unfortunate day, but was on his horse wherever there was work to be done. After the loss of the position of La Tuillerie he had no choice but to retreat, as it was in the power of the enemy to turn his positions and attack him in the rear.

General Bourbaki's army, in the east of France, has been making great efforts to compel the Germans under Von Werder to raise the siege of Belfort, an important fortress commanding the roads into Upper Alsace from the Departments of the Upper Saône and the Doubs. On Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday last repeated battles were fought within a few miles south of Belfort, in the narrow valley of the Lusine, which lies between that fortress and Montbéliard; the German troops here being commanded by General Keller, who occupied strong positions among the hills. The French had a great superiority of numbers, and Bourbaki's arrangement threatened to surround Von Werder, with other forces moving against him from the west, and to cut him off from the other German armies. But the attempt has been completely defeated; and the French General, having been repulsed again and again, is in full retreat southwards.

In the north-east corner of France, though isolated from the rest of the country, General Faidherbe is still endeavouring to recover lost ground; he has re-occupied Bapaume, and may advance towards Péronne or Amiens; St. Quentin likewise has been retaken by the French. In the neighbourhood of Havre there has been a skirmish, of no importance, at St. Romain. The siege of Longwy is proceeding; that fortress was bombarded on Tuesday, but its guns were more powerful than those of the Prussian field-batteries; and siege-guns have been sent for.

The bombardment of Paris, which was slackened on account of the fog during several days of last week, began, on Saturday, to be more briskly carried on, and has done some mischief in the city, killing or wounding several unarmed men, women, and children, destroying the buildings in the Jardin des Plantes, and damaging the dome of the Invalides. On the south-west side of Paris regular approaches are being carried on against the forts. The Germans have established rifle-pits within 800 yards of Issy, and are likely enough to sap up to it in another week. The same thing will probably occur in front of Vanvres and Montrouge. A parlementaire from Count Moltke went into Paris on Monday, and the rumour ran that negotiations for a surrender had commenced. The communication, however, seems to have related to a different matter. On the 15th General Trochu had sent out a parlementaire with a letter to Count Moltke, remonstrating against the damage done by the fire of the batteries to schools and hospitals, which were under the protection of international humanity. Count Moltke replied that it was by accident, owing to the great distance and fog, that such buildings had been struck; but that, when the batteries were nearer, the gunners could be more discriminate in their aim. The thaw has enabled the engineers to work in front of the forts, and guns and ammunition are arriving very rapidly. But it is the fear of famine that will effect the capture of gallant and glorious Paris. Only a miracle can save her. When she was besieged, five hundred years ago, by the English under King Edward III., the citizens, by their Provost, Etienne Marcel, vowed to give the Virgin Notre Dame, if the city were not taken, a waxen taper as long as the circumference of their walls, then six miles about, to be yearly burnt at her altar. The city was not taken, and the vow was paid.

In connection with this weekly record of the contemporary events of the war, it may not be inappropriate to refer to the publication (by Messrs. Macmillan and Co.) of "The War Correspondence of the *Daily News* in 1870." It is a volume containing all the important contributions, from the end of July to the beginning of December, made to the history of this great political and military transaction by the special correspondents of that journal. The superior excellence, on the whole, of its performances in descriptive and narrative reporting upon this occasion has been frankly attested, not only by the expressed judgment of the most esteemed

weekly critics, but also by a candid and liberal acknowledgment on the part of the most influential London newspaper. It is a fact honourable to our periodical literature, that signal merits of this kind should be so readily allowed the credit they deserve; and we, having been constantly obliged, during the last six months, to compare the different accounts of warlike operations which have appeared in the daily papers, must confirm the verdict already pronounced. The special correspondents of the *Daily News*, especially the one who has accompanied the headquarters of the Crown Prince of Prussia, and the one who witnessed the battle of Gravelotte, and also the other, who was present at the final surrender of Metz, have, beyond question, surpassed the efforts of all those employed by the other journals. As we have so often found it expedient to quote their descriptions of particular scenes and incidents represented by the sketches of our own Special Artists, we need scarcely refer now to any more instances in commendation of their style, graphic and vivid without sensational vehemence, their spirit, characterised by good taste, fairness, and good feeling, and the carefulness and usual correctness of their statements. The correspondent first mentioned of those three, who was well acquainted with the Crown Prince's staff, having attended the march of a Prussian army under the same command through Bohemia and Moravia in 1866, does not conceal his partiality for the German cause, or his admiration of the valour and diligence, the discipline and temper of its soldiers, and the perfect organisation of its forces. But he is eminently a truthful witness, and is animated by disinterestedness of kindly esteem for the French nation, and of sincere compassion for the terrible sufferings which both the army and the people have endured. While he is eager to vindicate the German invaders from every charge of needless rapacity or cruelty, and frequently commends their behaviour to the peasantry in France, he deplores the grievous losses of property, with the consequent distress, inflicted upon every town and village along the roads traversed by mighty hosts of armed men, hungry and thirsty, demanding to be served without denial, and devouring all they can get in every place they visit. The country is eaten up, he says, by these passing swarms of foreign soldiery; but they neither hurt nor insult the peaceable inhabitants; they are civil and good-humoured, and take no liberties with the women. We take note of this testimony, which, supplied by a most competent and trustworthy observer, gives us yet more satisfaction than his lively pictures of campaigning life, his panoramic landscapes on such great field-days as that of Sedan, his minute description of details in the Prussian and Bavarian military services, or his anecdotes of the Royal head-quarters at Versailles. The surprising promptitude with which the *Daily News* letters, upon any great event, were dispatched to London and published here, must be fresh in the memory of readers. The full and entire narrative of the battle of Sedan, fought on Thursday, Sept. 2, and of the proceedings next day, with the interview between the King of Prussia and the Emperor Napoleon, and the departure of the Emperor for Cassel on the Saturday morning, was written by the same correspondent, brought to London, and printed in the earliest issue of the paper on the Tuesday morning. It occupied more than a whole page. The only other account of the battle, except by telegraph, which appeared before the Wednesday morning was that given on the Monday by an evening paper, the *Pall Mall Gazette*. The singularly distinct and forcible report of the battle at Gravelotte, on Aug. 18, furnished to the *Daily News* by an American man of letters now resident in London, was likewise the earliest account supplied to the public, if not the only account in English, after the first brief message flashed along the electric wire. The despatch from a third "Special" to this enterprising journal, relating all particulars of the surrender and disarmament of Marshal Bazaine's army, and the German occupation of Metz, on Oct. 29, was telegraphed that very day for publication next morning; and it fills above sixteen pages of the volume now before us. That these feats of expedition were not performed at the cost of inaccuracy has been proved by the test of later and official information. The correspondence of the *Daily News* from inside Paris, though entertaining and "knowing" in a certain sense, does not appear to us so good as that of the *Times* or that of the *Standard*; but it forms part of the collection, which many persons will desire to possess. The letters are joined together by a thread of historical comment, and the whole is divided into thirteen chapters. It is accompanied by four maps and by a chronological table of events.

The French Academy has postponed its sitting to March 31.

The steamer Chiltern, on Saturday, picked up the Falmouth cable, for which she had been in search. Information was forwarded to Gibraltar that the cable would be buoyed.

The French steamer Lafayette, which sailed from New York on the 5th instant, had on board 100,000 stand of rifles and an immense quantity of ammunition for Havre and Cherbourg. The arms were principally Remington and Springfield rifles, of the United States army pattern for 1861.

An extraordinary jewellery robbery has been committed at the West-End. On Thursday week a well-dressed man alighted from a hansom cab at the shop of Messrs. London and Ryder, jewellers and goldsmiths, in Bond-street, and asked to look at some diamond necklaces and rings, stating that he had lately come into possession of some property, and was about to expend £6000 in jewellery. On leaving the shop he requested that a number of the articles he had examined might be sent to his house, No. 4, Upper Berkeley-street, Portman-square, at half-past five o'clock, in order that they might be shown to a lady. He gave the name of Mark Tyrrell. Diamonds of the value, together, of between £5000 and £6000 were taken by an assistant to the address stated, where the door was opened by Mr. Tyrrell himself, who, explaining that his servant was absent for the moment upon an errand, conducted the assistant to the drawing-room, where a well-dressed young woman and Mr. Tyrrell took seats at a table, with the shopman on the opposite side. The man produced the necklaces and rings he had been asked to bring, of the value together of about £2500, leaving the rest in his bag, which he placed at his feet on the floor. The lady examined them minutely, and at length Mr. Tyrrell suggested that she had better bring her sister in to look at them before she decided. She left the room, returned in a few minutes alone, and, going behind the shopman, stealthily placed a pocket-handkerchief, partly saturated, as he believes, with chloroform, over his mouth. The shopman struggled, but was overpowered, his arms and legs were pinioned, and he was placed upon a sofa, the man telling him that, if he dared to stir or speak, he would murder him. Here he remained in a state of semi-unconsciousness for about two hours, when he managed to release himself, go to the front door, and summon a policeman. The two men went over the house together, but they could find no one in it. The diamonds the shopman displayed on the table had disappeared, but those he had left in his bag on the floor remained.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The Grocers' Company has given £100 to the National Hospital for Consumption, recently erected near Ventnor.

The office of London physician to St. Anne's Royal Corporation has become vacant by the death of Dr. Mayo.

The Court of Assistants of the Drapers' Company has voted £2000 towards the Irish Church Sustentation Fund.

The annual soirée in connection with the Association for the Deaf and Dumb was held, on Monday evening, in the Hanover-square Rooms.

The Westminster District Board of Works have agreed to a payment of £200 to Mr. Cooper for eighty tons of his patent salts for watering the roads in the district.

The concert lately given by the Tottenham House Band, at St. James's Hall, in aid of the funds of University College Hospital, resulted in the sum of £153 being added to its funds.

On Tuesday the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained the members of the Court of Aldermen, the principal officers of the Corporation, and a few private friends, at dinner at the Mansion House.

Amongst the unknown curiosities in the British Museum are some cases bequeathed by Francis Douce, the literary antiquary, on the condition that they are not to be opened till the year 1900. No one is aware of their contents.

At the evening meeting of the Royal Geographical Society on Monday next at the University of London, Burlington-street, a paper will be read "On the recent German Arctic Expedition," by Captain Sir Leopold M'Cintock, R.N.

The *British Workman* Relief Fund committee (of which Lord Shaftesbury is the president) last week paid over to the committee of the Society of Friends for the distressed French peasants £250, being £50 for Bitsche and £200 for Phalsburg.

Mr. and Mrs. George Moore entertained about 150 cabmen, at their house in Kensington Palace-gardens, on Monday evening. The supper of Old English fare to which they were invited was laid in the servants' hall and other rooms in the basement, which had been decorated for the occasion.

Messrs. Sanger have given the use of the Agricultural Hall, Islington, with the whole of their artistes and staff, including the great military spectacle entitled, "The Blessings of Peace and Horrors of War," for the benefit of the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools, on Friday, the 27th inst.

The *Architect* says it is understood that the South-Eastern, North-Western, and Midland Railway Companies will guarantee a certain amount of traffic to the projected railway from Charing-cross to Euston-square and St. Pancras, and the Metropolitan Board of Works will give £200,000 towards the formation of the new street which is part of the scheme.

On Wednesday the Lord Mayor presided over a meeting at the Mansion House for the purpose of inaugurating a public subscription for the relief of the non-combatants around Paris, who have been rendered homeless through the investment of that city. A considerable sum was subscribed in the room, and an influential committee was appointed to carry out the object of the gathering.

The Royal Humane Society has awarded silver medallions to Messrs. J. Harrison and Samuel B. Bailey, of Sydney, New South Wales, for attempting to save the crew of the ship *Walter Hood*, which was lost at Ulladulla on April 29 last. The silver medallion has been voted to Henry M'Gran, of the Irish constabulary, for saving, at great risk to himself, a brother constable from drowning, while bathing.

Yesterday week the patients in the Great Northern Hospital, Caledonian-road, had their usual Christmas-tree treat—a large live tree in the largest ward, laden with useful articles of clothing, tea, sugar, fruit, toys, &c. Over one hundred patients enjoyed the treat; and a large number of children, sufferers from all manner of diseases, seemed to forget their sufferings and pains in the pleasure of a magic lantern.

The Marchioness of Lothian, accompanied by some other ladies, paid a visit to St. Pancras Workhouse last Saturday, and were shown over the various wards of that establishment; and the Marchioness inscribed her name in the visitors' book with an expression of her high approval of the extreme cleanliness and comfort apparent in all the wards, and the attention which appeared to be paid to the aged and infirm poor generally.

A deputation of Thames watermen waited upon the Lords of the Admiralty yesterday week to ask them to support a bill for amending the Acts relating to the government of the river, so that certain ancient privileges might be restored to them. If their desires were acceded to they offered to form themselves into a volunteer naval force, on the ground that, the men being so well acquainted with the river, such an organisation would form a valuable acquisition to the defences of the metropolis.

A circular to the various boards of guardians in London has been issued by the Metropolitan Asylums Board, detailing the measures taken by that body since the present outbreak of smallpox. As the two temporary hospitals at Hampstead are full, the managers are erecting other buildings of a similar character in the neighbourhood, which, it is hoped, will be ready for occupation within a month. There is also reason to believe that the permanent hospitals at Homerton and Stockwell will be enabled to receive patients within three weeks.

The annual meeting of the Victoria Park Hospital for Diseases of the Chest was held, yesterday week, at the London Tavern. The report of the committee stated that the patients admitted into the hospital during the year numbered 772, of whom 713 were more or less relieved, and 59 died. The number of out-patients received during the year amounted to 13,128, and the average attendance during each week was 1077. The receipts from all sources amounted during the year to £11,267; the current expenditure to £7757.

Mr. Bridges, poor-law inspector, has issued a report upon the increase of smallpox in London. He points out how important it is that the unions and parishes which are the principal seats of the disease should heartily co-operate with the Metropolitan Asylums Board. The malady still continues to put forth its strength in the eastern districts; but Westminster and Battersea are also attacked, and there is not a single union or parish in the metropolitan district which is entirely unaffected.

The representatives of the Powers convened to consider the opening of the Black Sea to Russian war-vessels met at the Foreign Office, on Wednesday—Lord Granville presiding. Austria was represented by Count Apponyi, Italy by Signor Cadorna, Prussia by Count Bernstorff, Russia by Baron Brunnow, and Turkey by Musurus Pacha. No representative of France was present. The proceedings were of a formal nature, and the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday next in order to afford an additional chance for the arrival of a French Plenipotentiary.

The directors of the Crystal Palace Company have divided the management of their establishment, vacant by the death of Mr. Bowley, between Mr. Grove and Mr. Wilkinson. Mr. Grove will bear the title of Secretary and Manager; Mr. Wilkinson that of Manager and General Superintendent.

The London School Board met on Tuesday afternoon to elect a clerk to the board. The four candidates selected by a committee were Mr. S. B. Litchfield, of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners' Office; Mr. G. Hector Croad, secretary to the Bishop of London's Fund; Mr. W. E. Bovill, mathematical master at Westminster School; and Mr. John Thomas Taylor, senior assistant at the British Museum Library. Mr. Croad was elected by a majority of one vote (24 against 23) over Mr. Litchfield. Lord Lawrence, the chairman, is empowered to appoint a private secretary at a salary of £300 per annum.

In the first week of January the number of persons in receipt of parochial relief in the metropolis was 150,376, of whom 36,456 were in the workhouses and 113,920 were outdoor paupers. Compared with the corresponding period of last year, this was a decrease of 4096. In the second week of January there were 159,702 persons in receipt of parochial relief in the metropolis, of whom 36,851 were in the workhouses and 122,851 were outdoor paupers. This was an increase of 2848 upon the return for the corresponding period of last year—a fact mainly attributable to the severity of the weather.

The Royal Hospital for Incurables, at Putney, has, through the liberality of one of its warmest supporters, become what may not inappropriately be termed a "picture-gallery." The treasurer of the hospital has presented to it 400 chromolithographs of the best kind, which he has had put into handsome frames and hung round the walls. Melrose Hall, the name of the hospital, would well repay a visit; it is beautifully situated, and is open to the public any day of the week. There are many vacant rooms the committee would gladly fill did its finances permit, and the afflicted in all parts of the country are craving for admission by hundreds.

The official liquidators of the Overend and Gurney Company have published a report. The indebtedness of the concern has been reduced to £162,504. The calls upon the contributories have produced a little over two millions, and it is expected that about £5000 may still be realised from this source. This drain upon the shareholders has, of course, in many cases, been attended with most disastrous consequences. Forty-nine of them have become bankrupt or have executed deeds of assignment, 169 have given evidence of inability to pay in full, in 155 cases compromises have been come to, and five applications for arrangements of this description are now under consideration.

Mr. Cowasjee Jehanghier Readymoney, C.S.I., of Bombay, has made the following timely gifts to London charities:—To the Lord Mayor, for the City poor-boxes, £10; Middlesex Hospital, £10; Royal Free Hospital, £10; London Hospital, £10; Homoeopathic Hospital, £10; Royal Hospital for Incurables, £10 10s.; Houseless Poor Asylum, £10; Boys' Refuge, Great Queen-street, £10; Girls' Refuge, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, £10; Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, £10; Printers' Pension Society, £10; and Strangers' Home, Limehouse, £10. The public benefactions of Mr. Readymoney during the last twenty-five years has exceeded £127,000, while his private gifts have been proportionately large.

ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

NUTRITION OF ANIMALS AND PLANTS.

Dr. Michael Foster, the Fullerian Professor of Physiology, commenced a course of eleven lectures on the Nutrition of Animals on Tuesday last. He began by referring to the elements of which an animal is composed—viz., ammonia, carbonic acid gas, water, and various salts, which he termed life elements. These, he said, are stable elements, and the invariable results of the burning, distillation, or decomposition of any part of an animal body, and they also constitute the waste material that is always leaving the body—a continual drain that necessitates the supply of food. The body, then, may be compared to a fountain, which is apparently, yet never, the same, but is undergoing incessant change. The water in a fountain, however, is impelled by force; and these life elements in themselves have no force, and are not combustible. Animals and plants are combustible, and whilst they burn their energy vanishes in the form of heat, and their stable elements alone remain, decomposition being an analogous process. Whence, then, is this force obtained? The Professor then described some low forms of vegetation, and stated that, practically, animals take, as food, plants which consist of stable elements, with a certain amount of energy stored up in them, derived from the sun. He then commented on the complex structures of the animal body, all differing in appearance, in qualities, and in composition, yet in these respects closely resembling plants; since vegetable food has a wonderful identity with the materials of the animal body. These materials he classified as proteids (nearly the same in flesh, brains, and corn), fats and oils, sugars and starch, cellulose, and mineral ashes. The body of an animal, then, consists of the stable elements raised to the height of these sets of compounds, and the daily drain due to the exertion of force must be supplied by a quantity of these same compounds derived from the animal or vegetable kingdom in the form of food. The problem of nutrition, then, consists in the investigation of the modes and laws by which the stable elements are raised through the infusion of energy to the height of unstable compounds. Broadly speaking, these elements are raised into the material of food by the agency of plants; this being effected by deoxidation or unburning—an infusion of energy by the action of sunlight, without which plants cannot grow; and, also broadly speaking, the conversion of the energy of the food through the passage into living tissues into vital work constitutes the nutrition of animals; the whole process being one of oxidation or burning. In conclusion, the Professor described the nutrition of one of the lowest forms of animal life the amoeba; and then referring to the division of labour in the structure of the higher animals, he commented on the office of the blood as the great internal medium of repairing living tissues and removing waste.

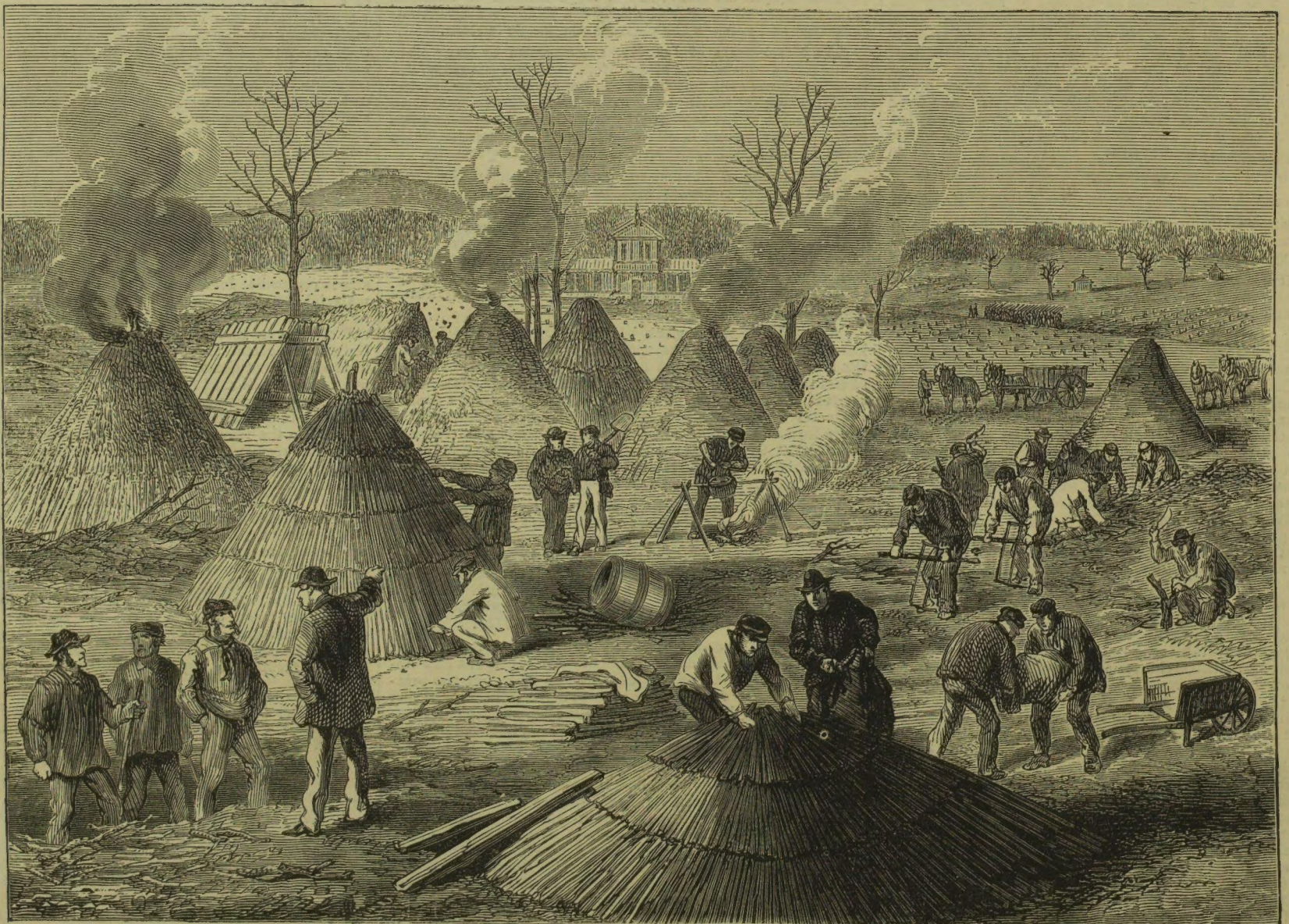
Professor Odling, at the next Friday evening meeting, the 27th inst., will describe some recent improvements in the production of Chlorine.

The Home Secretary has appointed Mr. James Willis to be an inspector of coal-mines and ironstone-mines.

The Royal Academy has made some important changes in its laws. The "council" for the transaction of general business and for the selection of works for the annual exhibition is to be increased from eight to twelve members, and the hanging committee to be raised from three to six. The changes are obviously in the direction of reform; they will enable the Academicians to perform their onerous duties with more ease, more thoroughly, and therefore more satisfactorily to the "outsiders."



RIFLE PRACTICE OF THE NATIONAL GUARDS AT VINCENNES, PARIS.
(SKETCH BY BALLOON POST.)



MAKING CHARCOAL IN THE BOIS DE BOULOGNE, PARIS.
(SKETCH BY BALLOON POST.)



WAITING FOR COKE AT THE GASWORKS, BARRIÈRE D'ITALIE, PARIS.
(SKETCH BY BALLOON POST.)

BIRTHS.

On the 9th inst., at Arundel House, Scarborough, the wife of J. F. Sharpin, Esq., J.P., of a son.

On the 9th inst., at Kyleberg, Sweden, the wife of Axel Dickson, Esq., of a daughter.

On the 21st ult., at Aughton, near Liverpool, the wife of Mr. J. O. Wakem, of a daughter.

On the 17th inst., at Woodburn House, Bucks, the wife of Alfred Gibbey, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 11th inst., at Friern Barnet, by the Rev. R. Morris, Rector, assisted by the Rev. J. Harman, of St. James's, Enfield Highway, Douglas Clapham, of Ordnance-road, Enfield-highway, to Louisa Marian, eldest surviving daughter of George Knights Smith, of Colney Hatch. No cards.

On the 18th inst., at Gee Cross, Cheshire, by the Rev. Charles Beard, B.A., and the Rev. Henry Enfield Dowson, B.A., Thomas Grundy, of Manchester, and Lymm, Cheshire, solicitor, younger son of the late Thomas Grundy, of Lymm, surgeon, to Mary Amelia, elder daughter of Robert Milligan Shipman, of Manchester, and Bredbury Hall, Cheshire, solicitor. No cards.

On the 15th inst., at Ardahan Church, by the Hon. and Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Tuam, assisted by the Rev. William Nugent, Rector of Ardahan, Albert Bracey, Esq., 14th Hussars, to the Hon. Matilda Maria, Helena Bingham, eldest daughter of the Right Hon. Lord Clanmorris, Creg Clare, in the county of Galway, and Newbrook, in the county of Mayo.

DEATHS.

On the 10th inst., at Park-crescent, Brighton, Elizabeth Arnold, the wife of Harvey Dickinson, Esq.

On the 8th inst., suddenly, at Nice, France, Martha Potts Wurts, widow of the late John Wurts, Esq., of New York, in the 68th year of her age.

On the 14th inst., at 53, St. George's-road, S.W., Alice, widow of Alexander Black, Esq., of Gidea Hale, Romford, Essex, in her 89th year.

On the 7th inst., at Funchal, Madeira, Pedro Peixeira de Macedo, aged 25.

On the 17th inst., at 17, Snargate-street, Dover, of bronchitis, Sir Luke Smithett, Knight, Deputy Lieutenant of the county of Kent, and Justice of the Peace for the borough of Dover.

On the 16th inst., at Sharrow Bank, Sheffield, Henry Newbould, Esq., aged 80.

* * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 23.

SUNDAY, Jan. 22.—Third Sunday after Epiphany. Divine Service: St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m.; the Rev. Prebendary Thos. F. Stooks, M.A.; special evening service, 7 p.m.; the Very Rev. Dean Dr. Mansel; Chapels Royal, St. James's, the Rev. Charles F. Tarver, M.A.; Whitehall, the Rev. W. F. Erskine Knollys, M.A., Rector of Saltwood; Savoy, 11.30 a.m.; the Rev. Henry White, M.A., Chaplain of the Savoy and of the House of Commons; 7.0 p.m., the Rev. W. H. Brookfield, M.A., Chaplain to the Queen.

MONDAY, 23.—Edward, Duke of Kent, her Majesty's father, died, 1827. Meetings: London Institution Lecture, 4 p.m. (Professor Huxley on Biology); Entomological Society (anniversary), 7 p.m.; Royal Institute of British Architects, 8 p.m.; Medical Society, 8 p.m.; Royal Geographical Society, 8.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, 24.—Meetings: Civil Engineers' Institution, 8 p.m.; Ethnological Society, 8 p.m.; Royal Medico-Chirurgical Society, 8.30 p.m.; Royal Institution Lecture, 8 p.m. (Professor M. Foster on Nutrition).

WEDNESDAY, 25.—The Princess Royal and the Crown Prince of Prussia married, 1858. Meetings: British Archaeological Association, 8 p.m.; Geological Society, 8 p.m.; London Institution (conversation), 7.30 p.m. (Professor Tyndall on Dust and Disease); Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (M. P. L. Simmonds on New Paper-making Materials).

THURSDAY, 26.—Treaty for Construction of a Panama Ship Canal signed, 1870. Meetings: Philosophical Club, 6 p.m.; London Institution Lecture, 7.30 p.m. (Mr. Barff on Poisons); University College, 8 p.m. (Professor Marks on Jewish Literature); Royal Academy Lecture, 8 p.m. (Mr. Cope on Painting); Society of Antiquaries and Royal Society, 8.20 p.m.; Royal Institution Lecture, 3 p.m. (Professor Odling on Davy's Discoveries).

FRIDAY, 27.—Meetings: Architectural Association, 7.30 p.m.; Quekett Microscopical Club, 8 p.m.; Royal Institution, 8 p.m. (Professor Odling on Recent Improvements in the Production of Chlorine, 9 p.m.).

SATURDAY, 28.—Moon's first quarter, 1.14 p.m. Meetings: Royal Botanic Society, 3.45 p.m.; Royal Institution Lecture, 3 p.m. (the Rev. W. H. Channing on the Laws of Human Life as Revealed in History).

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 23.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
2 52	3 14	3 36	3 58	4 20	4 39	4 58
5 19	5 31	5 53	6 15	6 37	6 55	7 13

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE
KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DATE.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOM.		WIND.	
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum read at 10 A.M.	Maximum read at 10 P.M.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.
Jan. 11	30.165	32.1	30.9	96	10	28.8	33.2	N. NW.	122
12	30.165	31.9	26.4	82	5	30.3	34.4	N. NW. NW.	122
13	30.173	29.8	26.0	87	10	18.0	36.7	WNW. WSW. SW.	183
14	29.959	38.2	36.2	93	7	25.0	43.5	SSW. SW.	454
15	29.959	38.2	36.2	93	7	25.0	43.5	S. SSW.	669
16	29.959	38.2	36.2	93	7	25.0	43.5	SSW. SW.	426
17	29.956	36.7	34.6	93	9	25.0	39.3	SSW. S.	335

* Melted snow. † Rain and snow.

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m.:

Barometer (in inches) corrected.	29.762	30.140	30.230	29.969	29.470	28.895	28.957
Temperature of Air	32.1	34.0	26.0	40.0	38.0	42.0	39.0
Temperature of Evaporation	31.0	32.0	25.0	40.0	36.0	40.0	37.0
Direction of Wind	N.	N.	WNW	SSW.	S.	SSW.	SSW.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS

THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES IS NOW OPEN DAILY from Nine till Six, at the Gallery, 53, Pall-mall. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS

THE NINTH ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES IS NOW OPEN, at 5, Pall-mall East. Ten till Five. Admission 1s. Gas on dark days.

ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

THE COAST OF NORWAY. An Exhibition of Drawings

and Paintings, by ELIJAH WALTON, including "The Midnight Sun."—PALL-MALL GALLERY, 48, Pall-mall (Mr. W. M. Thompson's). Admission, with Catalogue, 1s. Ten till Dusk.

DORÉ GALLERY.—GUSTAVE DORÉ, 35, New Bond-

street.—EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, including CHRISTIAN MARTYRS, MONASTERY, FRANCE—CA DE RIMINI, TITANIA, &c., at the New Gallery. Open Ten till Six. Gas at Dusk. Admission, 1s.

NORTH LONDON or UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

HOSPITAL.—The Committee are constrained to urge upon the public the great need of aid to the general funds of this Hospital.

The Hospital is suffering seriously from the decrease in contributions caused by the war. The receipts up to this period, as compared with the corresponding period of last year, are £1000 less. The Committee were obliged to use £3500 of capital during the past year to pay off tradesmen's bills.

The children's wards, which are always full, have this year scarcely received a single contribution towards their support.

Donations, &c., thankfully received by Edward Esfield, Esq., Treasurer, 19, Chester-terrace, Regent's Park; by the Secretary; and by Mr. J. W. Goodfellow, Clerk to the Hospital Committee.

Gower-street. HENRY J. KELLY, R.N., Secretary.

CANCER HOSPITAL, Brompton, and 167, Piccadilly, W.

In consequence of a considerable increase in the number of Indoor Patients in this Hospital, which now exceeds Sixty, great additional expenses have been incurred. The Board earnestly solicit further SUPPORT to enable them to continue to afford relief to that portion of the sick poor suffering from this terrible malady.

Treasurer—Geo. T. Hertslet, Esq., St. James's Palace, S.W.

Bankers—Messrs Coutts and Co., Strand.

Office and Out-Patients' Establishment, 167, Piccadilly, W.
N.B. One Guinea (annual) constitutes a Governor; and a donation of Ten Guineas a Life Governor.

WEDNESDAY NEXT.—LONDON BALLAD CONCERTS.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Artists at the Fourth Concert:—Madame Sherrington and Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Julia Elton and Madame Patey, Mr. Sims Reeves and Mr. Santley. Pianoforte, Miss Kate Roberts. Flute, Mr. Thorpe. The Part-Music under the direction of Mr. Fielding. Conductor, Mr. J. L. Hutton.—Stalls, 6s. (Family Tickets for Four, 21s. Balcony, 3s. Area, 2s.; Gallery and Orchestra, 1s. Tickets of Austin, St. James's Hall; Chappell and Co., New Bond-street; Keith, Prowse, and Co., Chapside; Hays, Royal Exchange-buildings; and Boosey and Co., Holles-street.

MADAME SHERRINGTON, Miss EDITH WYNNE, Miss JULIA ELTON, and Madame PATEY at the BALLAD CONCERT, on WEDNESDAY NEXT.

MR. SIMS REEVES and Mr. SANTLEY at the BALLAD CONCERT, on WEDNESDAY NEXT.

MADAME SCHUMANN begs to announce that she will give TWO RECITALS of PIANOFORTE MUSIC, in ST. JAMES'S HALL, on WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS, FEB. 1 and 8, on which occasion she will be assisted by Herr Stockhausen. To commence each day at Three o'clock. Sofa Stalls, 5s.; Balcony, 3s.; Admission, 1s. Applications for Tickets to be made to Chappell and Co., 50, New Bond-street, where a Plan of the Stalls may be seen.

THE ANNUAL BALL in Aid of the LICENSED VICTUALLERS' SCHOOL will take place, at ST. JAMES'S HALL, on THURSDAY NEXT, the 26th inst. Adams's Band of Fifty Performers. Principal M.C., Mr. Thomas Butler.—Double Tickets, 16s.; Single Tickets, 10s. 6d. (to include Refreshments), may be obtained of the Governor and Committee, the Past Officers, the Stewards of the late Anniversary Dinner; at Austin's Ticket Office, Piccadilly; and at 127, Fleet-street, of WILLIAM SMALLEY, Secretary.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Last Weeks of the Great Fantomime, GULLIVER. Monday to Friday next, Shilling Days. Transformation and other Scenes, by Mr. F. Panton; 150 Children, 300 Performers, Lurline Ballet, Gulliver on the Giant's Dinner-Table, the Lilliputian Court, the Royal Statues, and other Comic Scenes. Should be seen by all.
Saturday, Concert. Mlle. Leon Duval, Mr. Sims Reeves; Solo Pianoforte, Mr. Charles Hallé. Transferable Stalls for the Thirteen Concerts, One Guinea; Stalls for this Concert, 2s. 6d.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Monday to Friday.—Professor Hermann, the great Prestidigitator; D'Auban and Ward's Laughable Ballet, and Marvells of Peru, at 12.30, in Opera Theatre. Great Fancy Fair, Christmas-Tree, Picture-Gallery, Fine-Arts Court, &c. Admission, One Shilling. Reserved Seats, 2s. 6d. and 1s. A great reduction on taking Ten.

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED'S New Entertainment, A SENSATIONAL NOVEL, in Three Volumes, by W. S. Gilbert; Music by German Reed, on MONDAY NEXT, at Eight, with BADEN BADEN, by Mr. Corney Grain. ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. Admission, 1s., 2s., 3s., and 5s.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—THE CHRISTY MINSTRELS' FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES, given every Afternoon and Evening during the Christmas week in the Great Hall, achieved a success truly marvellous. Notwithstanding the vast accommodation afforded for the Holiday Visitors, it proved altogether inadequate to the demand for places. At each performance, long before the hour of commencement, some thousands of persons were unable to obtain admission to any part of the Hall. On Boxing Day upwards of seven thousand persons paid for admission to the two performances—undoubtedly the greatest return given by any place of amusement in London.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—The extraordinary success of the CHRISTY MINSTRELS' HOLIDAY PROGRAMME fully justifies the Management in announcing its repetition EVERY NIGHT, and also on every Wednesday and Saturday Afternoon, until further notice. Pantomime, 5s.; Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Doors open at 7.30 for the Evening Performances, and at 2.30 for the Day Performances. Tickets and places may be secured fourteen days in advance, on application at Austin's Ticket Office, St. James's Hall, daily, from Nine till Six; and at Mr. Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. Moore and Frederick Burgess.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—THE CHRISTY MINSTRELS' Great Holiday Programme Every Night at Eight, Wednesdays and Saturdays at Three and Eight, until further notice. All the new Songs, Dances, and Burlesques, introduced during the Christmas week with such unqualified success.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moore and Burgess.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.—Lessee and

Manager, F. B. Chatertown.—Morning Performances of the Grand Pantomime every Wednesday and Saturday until Feb. 25.—On MONDAY, JAN. 23, her Majesty's Servants will perform a New and Original Farce, entitled RULE BRITANNIA. A farce which will be produced the Drury Lane Grand Comic Christmas Annual, entitled THE DRAGON OF WAXLEY; or, Harlequin and Old Mother Shipton. Written by E. L. Blanchard, with Characteristic Scenery by William Beverley. Characters in the Opening by Misses Victoria Vokes, Jessie Vokes, Rosina Vokes, and Harriet Coveney; Messrs. Fred Vokes, E. Moreland, Fawdon Vokes, H. Naylor, and Charles Steyne. In the Harlequinade, Messrs. F. Evans and W. H. Harvey, Clowns; Paul Herring and J. Morris, Pantalons; Misses Rosina Vokes and Jessie Vokes, Columbiads; Miss Lizzie Grosvenor, Harlequin; the Pocket-Sims Reeves, Mr. Collard; with various other attractions. The Music arranged by Mr. W. C. Levy; the Ballets, Grouping, and Children's Scenes arranged by Mr. John Cornock; the whole produced under the direction of Mr. Edward Shirling. Prices from Sixpence to Five Guineas. Doors open from Half-past Six. Commence at Seven o'clock. Box Office open from Ten till Five daily.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—On MONDAY

NEXT, and during the Week, at Seven, THE POOR SOLDIER; after which, at a Quarter to Eight, THE PALACE OF TRUTH—Messrs. Buckstone, Kendal, Everill, Clark, Rogers, and Braid; Messdames Robertson, Chippendale, C. Hill, E. Wright, and Fanny Gwynne; followed by UNCLE'S WILL—Mr. Kendal and Miss Robertson; and THE SPECTRE BRIDEGROOM. Box Office open daily from Ten till Five.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress,

Mrs. John Wood.—Every Evening, New Original Comedy, by T. W. Robertson, called WAR—Messrs. Brough, Mori, Barrier, Sutton, and Lillian Adair; M. Henri Nottmann, Messrs. A. W. Young, Fred. Merrin, and Lionel Brough. Doors open at 6.30. At 7, TO OBLIGE BENSON. At 8, WAR. At 10.30, BOMBASTES FURIOSO. Box Office, 11 to 6.

ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE and CIRCUS, HOLBORN.

Increased attraction. Miss Gertrude Sanger, with her magnificent School Horses, nightly greeted with immense applause. Unrivalled Gymnastic Virtuosity, the Brothers Lavater Lee, every evening. Triumphant reception of the splendid New Company. Ground and lofty Tumbling Contest by the Champion English Acrobats. Screams of laughter evoked by "Punch and Judy," the comic mules, introduced by Price and Benham, the two imitable humourists. Papets, the Performing Elephant, cleverer than ever. Vaulting over ten horses by the entire Company, headed by the Champion Double Somersault-Throver, Messrs. Purvis and Deverant. The entire press unanimously of opinion that the entertainment at the Amphitheatre, Holborn, is the best ever given in this country. Open at Seven; commence at Half-past. Morning Performances every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday throughout the Holidays. Open at Two; commence at Half-past.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE.—Immense Success

of the New Pantomime, RIDE A COCK-HORSE TO BANBURY CROSS; or, Harlequin and the Silver Amazons. Morning Performances Every Monday and Thursday, at 12.30. Pantomime Every Evening, at Seven.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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of the Railway Bookstalls in England and Wales for 5d. each single Number. Notice of any difficulty in buying the paper at this price should be sent to the Publisher, 193, Strand, W.C.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1871.

Hitherto, according to the French accounts, the bombardment of Paris has been ineffective. The assailing and the defending Generals have exchanged messages, Trochu complaining that the fire of the Germans has been directed upon hospitals and other asylums, and Von Moltke replying that the great distance at which his artilleryists discharge their shells makes aim impossible; but, he cynically adds, when the batteries had been brought nearer to Paris the same cause for complaint will not be given. The latest news of the siege is that some of the batteries have been advanced much nearer, and it may be assumed that such part of the capital as is on the left bank of the Seine is now exposed to the fire. This has not, as yet, been delivered with the tremendous fierceness which we were

told to expect; and though, no doubt, Von Moltke includes among his plans one for opening a general bombardment, it would seem that he is inclined to persevere in availing himself of the services of his dread ally within the city.

That ally is serving him well, and the proofs are too painful to be dwelt upon longer than is necessary. The authorities in Paris cannot suppress the fact that the death rate is increasing frightfully, for the funereal evidence is before the eyes of all; and, though it seems matter of form for all writers of private letters to declare that the capital is undaunted, other paragraphs in those letters are tolerably sure to indicate that the famine is telling in a terrible manner. We willingly abstain from enlarging on so sad a theme; but it must be noticed, because partisanship makes some English writers blind to facts which we have no intention of charging them with willingly ignoring. Paris is starving for want of food and of fuel; and, though the exceptions are numerous, they do not bear an important proportion to the number of those, of various ranks—but, of course, chiefly the lower—who are absolutely suffering. As we have said before, when the true story of this siege shall be told, most abundantly will be justified the sympathy now felt for the Parisians by such of us as nevertheless believe that no choice is left to the Emperor of Germany as to finishing the work that has been forced upon him.

A certain interest has been excited by the movements of General Bourbaki, who appears to have resolved on a course of independent action natural enough in an ex-Colonel of Zouaves, but not in accordance with military ideas of generalship. He has determined to endeavour to cut off the communications between the Germans and their base of operations—or, we had better say, to cut off their German supplies. His first act in this direction was to fall away from Chanzy, and thereby to precipitate the defeat of a leader who was not only doing his best, but whose best was a very important menace to the besiegers. Could Chanzy and Bourbaki have been brought to operate together, the numerical force at their command ought, according to soldier-critics, to have been very dangerous to the Germans. But the ex-Zouave has taken his own way, and Chanzy has been routed, and talks only of retreat. Should Bourbaki appear to be succeeding in his object, he will be hailed for a few days as the saviour of France, but even in this improbable case his triumph will be of the briefest. It were an insult to the understanding of readers to affect to suppose that Von Moltke, in the execution of his grander manœuvres, has forgotten the very first rule of military grammar. We will waste no time in discussing such an idea. Whatever may be Bourbaki's designs, he is already confronted by an enemy who appears to make the French General's alleged successes very useless; and Manteuffel is on his way to bring to an end, as it seems to us, the audacious effort to carry the war into Germany. Be it remembered that we can but write from the facts as they are presented to us by the telegrams, and with the aid of the maps; and with such imperfect aid it would be rash and unjust to be over-dogmatical on the conduct of a General placed in a critical position, and aware that France is expecting him to do something, be it right or wrong. But, at all events, we have some means of judging of his resources; and as to the distances of points and the character of the districts of operation we have what may be accepted as accurate information. It is not, therefore, presumptuous to say that we regard the past course of Bourbaki as unwise, and that we are unable to see reason for believing that he is "advancing" to success. Indeed, a telegram from Versailles has just been received, stating that Bourbaki, having completely failed in his renewed attack on General von Werder's intrenched position, is in full retreat southwards. That the Germans are irritated that there is yet a question on the matter may be easily conceived, and we may look for a thunderous outburst of patriotism when they learn that with Paris locked up in a circle of iron a Frenchman has dared even to dream of assailing Germany itself.

Again, there is talk of negotiations, and they are so manifestly called for that it is not wonderful that men believe in their existence. There is a strange reticence as to the terms on which peace is possible. Every day, of course, during which a hideous and costly war is protracted, adds a formidable item to the account which the victors will present. But there seems no reason why some kind of intimation as to final terms cannot be given, officially or otherwise, and diplomacy would at this moment do a great thing by extorting the information, or an approximation to it. Paris must fall, but it is necessary that her sufferings should be prolonged, or that her fall should be a scene of horror. Both her military and patriotic honour have long been amply vindicated, and were her gates flung open to-morrow it would be done amid the plaudits of Europe, admiring the courage and endurance of her fairest capital. But Paris may ask, or it may be asked for her, what is to be understood by a capitulation. What does the conquering Emperor now demand? Does victory prompt him to make sterner conditions than heretofore? It seems that this is precisely the moment when both Germany and France could profit by knowing what is to be "the price of the war"—apart from its wicked and horrible slaughter.

There is great activity in the Birmingham military gun trade, and from 6000 to 7000 rifles are turned out every week.

THE COURT.

The Queen, with the junior members of the Royal family, continues at Osborne House.

Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein left Osborne yesterday (Friday) week, and returned to Frogmore House, Windsor. The Right Hon. W. E. Forster dined with her Majesty.

On Saturday last the Queen held a Council, at which were present Earl De Grey, Viscount Sydney, the Right Hon. H. A. Bruce, the Right Hon. W. Monsell, and the Right Hon. Chichester Fortescue. The Right Hon. W. Monsell and the Right Hon. Chichester Fortescue took the oaths before her Majesty in Council as Postmaster-General and President of the Board of Trade. Earl De Grey and Viscount Sydney had audiences of the Queen. Mr. Helps was Clerk of the Council. At the Council Parliament was further prorogued from the 17th inst. to Feb. 9, then to meet for the dispatch of business. The Convocations of the Provinces of Canterbury and York were also further prorogued to Feb. 10. The regulations for the new gold coinage were also defined and ordered to be issued. The sovereigns henceforth coined to have for the obverse the Queen's effigy, with the inscription, "Victoria D. G. Britanniar. : Reg. : F. D. ;" and for the reverse the image of St. George, armed, sitting on horseback, attacking the dragon with a sword, his spear having been broken in the encounter, and the date of the year, with a graining on the edge of the coin. After the Council Vice-Chancellor James Bacon and Mr. John Maclean, deputy auditor of the War Office, were introduced to her Majesty's presence by the Lord Chamberlain and received the honour of knighthood. The Right Hon. H. A. Bruce was present. Lord Alfred Paget was in attendance.

On Sunday the Queen, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service at Whippingham church. The Rev. George Prothero and the Rev. John Dalton officiated.

The Queen, accompanied by the members of the Royal family, has taken her customary daily drives and walks.

Prince Arthur has been suffering from a sprained ankle, which deferred his Royal Highness's return to Woolwich, but he is now recovering.

Lady Churchill has arrived at Osborne on a visit to her Majesty.

The Hon. Emily Cathcart has succeeded the Hon. Flora Macdonald as Maid of Honour in Waiting to the Queen.

Colonel G. A. Maude, C.B., has arrived at Osborne.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint the Hon. Charles George Cornwallis Eliot, Esquerry to Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, to be one of the grooms of the privy chamber in ordinary to her Majesty, in the room of the Hon. Roden Berkeley Wriothesley Noel, resigned.

The Queen has appointed the Rev. Benjamin Morgan Cowie, B.D., Vicar of St. Lawrence Jewry and honorary chaplain to her Majesty, to be one of the chaplains in ordinary to her Majesty; and the Rev. Henry White, M.A., chaplain of the House of Commons and of the Chapel Royal, Savoy, Strand, to be an honorary chaplain to her Majesty.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales left Berkeley Castle on Saturday last for London. His Royal Highness, accompanied by Lord and Lady Fitzhardinge and a large party, drove to the Berkeley-road station. The Prince travelled thence by a special train upon the Midland line to Bristol, and thence by the Great Western Railway to London. His Royal Highness left town, on Monday, for Sandringham, accompanied by the Danish Minister and Madame Bulow, the Earl of Leicester, Lord and Lady Donne, and various other friends. The Prince, with his visitors, travelled by the eleven o'clock mail train from St. Pancras station.

Prince and Princess Teck arrived at Sandringham House, on Saturday last, on a visit to the Princess of Wales. On Sunday the Princess and Prince and Princess Teck attended Divine service at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, in Sandringham Park. The Rev. W. Lake Onslow, M.A., officiated.

The Prince, with his guests, has had excellent sport shooting over the Royal demesne. The Princess has taken her usual walking and driving exercise.

The Marchioness of Carmarthen has succeeded the Hon. Mrs. W. Grey as Lady in Waiting to the Princess.

THE APPROACHING MARRIAGE OF PRINCESS LOUISE.

The preparations for the marriage of Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorn at Windsor are progressing rapidly. Among the erections in St. George's Chapel is a gallery near the altar, opposite the Queen's private pew, for the accommodation of about a hundred persons connected with the Duke of Argyll's family. The Royal marriage will take place early in March. After the ceremony it is understood that the Princess and the Marquis of Lorn will travel by road to Claremont House, Esher, which is being arranged for their reception.

His Excellency Count Szécsen, accompanied by Count Alexander Apponyi, arrived, on Saturday last, at the Austro-Hungarian Embassy, Belgrave-square.

The Duke and Duchess of Manchester returned to town on Saturday last from visiting Lord and Lady Fitzhardinge, at Berkeley Castle, Gloucestershire. The Duke left town on Tuesday, for Kimbolton Castle, Hunts.

The Duke of Buccleugh has arrived at Montagu House, Whitehall, from Dalkeith Palace, near Edinburgh.

The Earl and Countess of Derby arrived in town on Tuesday from Knowsley, and left the following day on a visit to the Queen, at Osborne.

Countess Apponyi has left Belgrave-square for Italy. The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador remains in town.

The Earl and Countess of Dalkeith have left Dalkeith Palace, where they have been staying with the family party visiting the Duke and Duchess of Buccleugh, for Lord Dalkeith's hunting-seat.

Frances Countess Waldegrave and the Right Hon. Chichester Fortescue have left town on a visit to the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, at Hatfield House, Herts.

The Earl of Kimberley has arrived in town from Kimberley Hall.

The Countess Dowager of Derby has returned to town from staying with Colonel the Hon. P. W. and Lady Emma Talbot, at Ventnor, Isle of Wight.

Viscount Halifax has arrived in town from Hickleton Hall, Yorkshire.

The birth of a son and heir to the Earl and Countess of March was celebrated on the Richmond estates in the north last week. Public dinners were held at Fochabers, Huntley, and Dufftown.

Princess Josephine, one of the twin daughters of the Count of Flanders, brother of the King of the Belgians, died on Wednesday morning.

THE CHURCH.

PREFEMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Cordeaux, W. H., to be Minister of St. Paul's Chapel, Stonehouse, Devon.
Dale, Charles; Domestic Chaplain to the Marquis of Ely.
Fish, J. H.; Curate of Doncaster.
Garry, Nicholas Thomas; Vicar of St. Paul's, Oxford.
Gell, F.; Rector of Llyswen, Brecon.
Jebb, H. Gladwin; Rector of Fontnell Magna with West Orchard, Dorset.
Johnson, Frederick; Curate of St. John's, Burscough, Lancashire.
Jones, George; Vicar of Newchurch, Monmouthshire.
Loughnan, T.; Incumbent of the Octagon Episcopal Chapel, Bath.
Shand, T. H. R.; Vicar of East Ham, Essex.
Sydenham, George; Rector of Farewell, Lichfield.
Wilkinson, J. B.; Chaplain to the Earl of Kinnoull.
Williams, Frederick; Rector of Pilsdon.

A monument to the memory of the officers and men of the 33rd Regiment who died when in India and Abyssinia has been placed in York Minster by the officers of that regiment.

A beautiful eagle lectern has been placed in Swanmore church, near Bishop-Waltham, to the memory of the late Mrs. Shearer, of Swanmore House, by her friends.

The wooden beams of the tower of St. Saviour's Church, Bamber Bridge, near Preston, took fire from an over-heated flue on Saturday. The flames were confined to the tower, which was quite burnt out.

Under the presidency of the Vicar of Islington, a conference of clergy was held, on Tuesday, in Bishop Wilson's Memorial Hall. The responsibility of the Evangelical clergy and charity in controversy were amongst the subjects dealt with.

The *Record* states that the Premier has offered the Deanery of Canterbury to Dr. Hook, the Dean of Chichester. On a former occasion Dr. Hook was offered, but declined, the Deanery of Rochester.

The Society for Promoting the Employment of Additional Curates made up its balance-sheet for 1870 on the 14th inst., and finds its income for that year (omitting from the account the accidental item of legacies) nearly £1000 more than that for the previous year.

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol has resigned his post as visitor of St. Lucy's Home, Gloucester, being unable to sanction the religious ceremonies and practices at that institution. The Bishop continues to be, as he has been from the first, a warm supporter of the Children's Hospital.

Since Aug. 3 the National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church has made grants towards the building and enlargement of schools to the extent of £49,593, assisting thereby in providing additional accommodation for 153,589 children. At the last meeting of the finance committee, Jan. 11, grants to the amount of £23,593 were voted to more than 500 places.

The monthly meeting of the Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement, Building, and Repairing of Churches and Chapels was held on Monday at Whitehall—the Earl of Romney in the chair. Grants of money were made in aid of the following objects:—Building new churches at Ely, in the parish of Caeran, near Cardiff, and Newark, St. Leonard's, Notts; enlarging or otherwise increasing the accommodation in the churches at Canterbury, St. George; Catterick, Yorkshire; and Dunton, near Winslow, Bucks. Under very urgent circumstances additional grants were made towards building a church at Nottingham, St. Andrew; and from the special fund, towards building a mission church at Rhwsfa, in the parish of Nantmel, Radnorshire. A grant was also made from the School Church and Mission House Fund towards building a school church at Harrowbarrow, in the parish of Calstock, Cornwall. The society likewise accepted the trust of sums of money as repair funds for the churches at Burton-in-Lonsdale, Yorkshire, and St. Stephen's, South Kensington, Middlesex.

Testimonials have been presented to the following clergymen:—The Rev. J. A. Aston, on resigning the vicarage of St. Stephen's, South Kensington, has been presented with very gratifying testimonials to his zealous and faithful ministry of five years in Kensington—a gold watch, with suitable inscription, and a cheque for £500. This was accompanied with a Bible, two silver side dishes, and an address from the teachers and scholars of the Sunday School, and also by some articles of plate, with an address signed by a large number of the working classes of the parish.—A very handsome silver tea and coffee service has been presented to the Rev. Alexander Wilson (secretary to the National Society and Vicar of Tottenham) and to Mrs. Wilson by the members and friends of his late congregation at the All Saints' Mission Church, Grosvenor-road, Piccadilly, of which for eight years Mr. Wilson was practically in sole charge.—The Rev. J. G. Birch, M.A., on vacating the curacy of St. Paul's, Chatham, has been presented by the churchwardens with a testimonial as to his efficiency in his clerical duties.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The Rev. E. T. Turner, M.A., Registrar of Oxford University, Fellow and late Bursar of Brasenose, has been appointed Vice-Principal in the place of the Rev. T. H. R. Shand, who has accepted the college living of East Ham. The Rev. A. Watson, M.A., was at the same time appointed Bursar in the room of Mr. Turner. A Hulseian Exhibition has been awarded by the trustees to Mr. Frederick William Stone, Scholar of Brasenose.

Dr. John Muir, of Edinburgh, has placed at the disposal of the senate of the University of St. Andrew's £100, to be awarded as a prize for eminence in Hebrew scholarship and in the critical knowledge of the Old Testament Scriptures; and also the sum of £10 to the student in divinity who shall pass the best examination in the Dutch language in November, 1871. All Masters of Arts of the Scottish Universities of not more than six years' standing on Nov. 1, 1873, excepting only the successful competitor of Dr. Muir's Glasgow prize for Hebrew in the preceding year, are eligible as candidates.

The Rev. Frederic W. Farrar, M.A., F.R.S., late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, Assistant Master of Harrow School, and one of her Majesty's chaplains, has been elected Master of Marlborough College.

The Rev. George Currey, D.D., late preacher to the Charterhouse, has been appointed to the mastership of that institution, vacant by the death of the late Archdeacon Hale.

The Sultan of Turkey has presented to Sir Henry Elliott, the British Ambassador, a pair of magnificent Arab horses.

It is reported that M. Meissonier, who is in Paris, has just sold to an amateur of that city his great picture of "1807" for 200,000f. (£8000), although the picture is not yet finished.

The Roman Catholics of Birmingham and neighbourhood met, on Tuesday night, and adopted a very strong protest against the occupation of Rome by the Italians, and the "sacriligious usurpation" of the temporal power of the Pope. Lord Howard of Glossop and Viscount Camden were present.

"NOTHING IN THE PAPERS."

I do not know whether the co-operative stores sell carriages, and, having no reason for wishing for immediate information on the point, may probably remain in ignorance thereon; but persons who buy carriages should ascertain how this is, and also whether, if the stores sell those articles, a purchaser's coachman and his friends get any part of the price. Some odd little revelations have just come out:—It seems that when a handsome new set of harness is bought for carriage-horses, not only does the owner's coachman "expect" a fee, but he scorns a couple of sovereigns, and declines to accept anything but "paper;" also that when a new carriage arrives in a "fashionable" mews, the vender is "expected" to treat the gentleman's coachman and all his mews acquaintances to a handsome supper. Now, the grievances of persons who can afford to keep horses and carriages are not likely to excite any great and agitating sympathy in the hearts of the other class of human beings; but still the matter is worth noting, as showing how peculation and extortion pervade our commercial system. Everything of this sort is a new proof of the necessity for a social reform. In the cases referred to, £5 or £10 is not only simply and absolutely wasted, but it is unjustly taken from a buyer, unjustly given to a servant. I suppose that, if the "expectation" were not realised, the harness would soon be reported on as bad, and the carriage would be incessantly out of repair; and gentlemen, well aware of this, prefer to know nothing of the way the wheels are greased, and, as has been said, the case is not one for intense sympathy.

But there is another wheeled-carriage grievance in which we all are interested. I am not going to renew a useless protest against the tyranny of the Van Dynasty. We must get another kind of House of Commons before we may hope to disestablish Juggernaut. For the present, let us be meek, and know our place in the road, such place being wherever it pleases King Van to put us. We must submit to any block, any crush, any mutilation of light craft, any personal hurt which it may suit him to inflict; that is, in the ordinary course of such traffic as he is gracious enough to allow us. Some day we shall rise in revolt, and banish him to side streets, and confine him to certain hours. But his ministers are too strong for us, at present. There is, however, one thing which the smaller potentates, who aspire, not unsuccessfully, to his immunities, might perhaps be made to consider. The Registrar-General gives us a weekly list of persons who have been killed by cart accidents. One prolific source of these is a pleasant and social custom indulged in by drivers. They see a good deal of the world, and are, I dare say, agreeable talkers. Now men who talk well like to talk, and I cannot blame an accomplished carman who has a package to deliver at the foot of the area steps for dedicating a few, or even many, minutes to chat with an agreeable domestic. Life cannot all be work, and rational conversation is improving as well as delightful. But it would be highly convenient if the proprietors of carts made such arrangements as would permit their men to enjoy this sort of thing without danger to the lives of the rest of us. A horse is a meditative animal, but excitable. This very week I had the questionable pleasure of beholding an illustration of the fact. I saw a huge covered cart dash past the window at which I was standing, the horse at something like a gallop, and the reins loose and dangling. From this I inferred that he was masterless. His career was brilliant, but brief. He sped gallantly along a terrace that stands back from a much-frequented road, turned the corner well, and then made a straight rush across the said road. Anything but a huger van must have gone down before his charge—an omnibus, perhaps, might have stood, but his shafts would have given a good account of a couple of insides. As the fates willed, there was nothing in his way, though three minutes before there were half a dozen broughams and cabs at the spot. He may have been blind. He dashed towards an opposite wall, and fell on the footpath. He was able some time afterward to limp away, I hope to a merciful end. No one had suffered, except his owner, unless the conscience of the person who ought to have been minding him and left him to be frightened kept that person awake at night. There! as things stand, this is only a dull story of a horse running away with a cart—but half a dozen coroners' inquests might have been the result of over-confidence in that poor horse's nerves. May one ask whether there is any law, or by-law, or municipal rule, or vestry edict, or police decree, or any other scrap of the wonderful machinery which muddles our affairs, to prescribe that a spirited horse shall not be left to decide for himself whether he will kill a few of us and himself, or not? If there be, and it be made known in consequence of this inquiry, I will abide the reproach of having written a good many lines about a catastrophe that did not take place. Rome held it.

More honourable far, *servare*
Civem, than slay an adversary.

This last jewel robbery recalls to us the admirable stories true or not, with which the Parisians used to amuse us in the days before their misfortunes. A magnificent order is given, the jeweller's assistant comes to the house with his treasures, the customer himself admits him, the servant being, curiously, out, and the wealth of gems is displayed to an elegant young lady. She is told to fetch her sister, but returns—or somebody else in female dress comes—alone, and the next minute the assistant is chloroformed and bound down on a sofa. When he recovers his senses, customer, lady, and gems have disappeared, but, luckily, not with a bag of diamonds which he had placed on the floor. As to wonder that such things can be done in London, the only wonder is that they are not done very often, considering the readiness of tradesmen to believe in the respectability of a customer who gives, in a dashing way, a large order. All tradesmen, however, are not quite so trusting. It seems that this adventurer tried the same game with another firm, of the incredulous race, and, though jewels were sent as desired, they were sent in custody of two assistants, one being of powerful build—a dragon to watch over the golden apples. This precaution offended the conspirators, and they declined negotiations not based on the principle of mutual confidence.

It occurs to me that people "who write to the papers" (and what people who write for the papers think of the others need not be set down here) will rightly consider that they have had a bad time lately. The autumn, during which the amateurs are accustomed to refresh the journals with lucubrations which caused an uncivil critic to name that time the "silly season," was entirely devoted to war, and the "outsiders" were cruelly kept outside. The war holds on, the columns of the journals are still proof against volunteers, and the last hopes of the latter are now finished off, for the *Gazette* of Tuesday fixed Feb. 9 for the meeting of Parliament. Between the special correspondents and the reports, there will be no sort of chance for the people who write "without being obliged"—may one add, and without obliging? Why do they not set up a paper of their own, and write to one another?



VALLEY OF THE LOIRE, WITH THE LANTERNE DE ROCHECORBON.



W. E. FROST, ESQ. R.A.



BURYING FRENCH SOLDIERS OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE OF CHEVILLY.

FROM INSIDE PARIS.

(BY BALLOON POST.)

FIFTEENTH WEEK OF THE SIEGE

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Sunday, Dec. 25.—Parisian housewives were agreeably surprised to-day at receiving rations of beef, in lieu of the habitual horseflesh, accompanied, too, by a trifle over an ounce of salt butter per head—butter, which nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every thousand of the population have not tasted since the first fortnight of the siege. Spite of the sharp frost, those who had to stand *en queue* cared no longer for the cold when they heard of the good things that were in store for them.

A kind of bazaar opened to-day, at the Ministry of Public Instruction, for the benefit of the victims of the war, at which the simplest articles of food were exposed for sale side by side with objects of taste and luxury, and, what is not at all surprising, commanded hardly inferior prices. One hears of a turkey—set off on a couch of velvet, it is true—realising a couple of hundred francs; and of bonbonnières, containing fine flour in lieu of sweetmeats, being sold for half this amount; of potatoes prized as high as the choicest truffles; of celery fetching almost its weight in silver; and radishes realising ten francs, in place of ten centimes, per bunch. Books and pamphlets bearing the autograph of Victor Hugo commanded extravagant sums; bottles of champagne from the cellars of the Tuileries were broached at five francs the glass; and M. Dorian, the Minister of Public Works, is reported to have paid a thousand francs for a box of ordinary cigars—being, however, ten times the amount which Madame Jules Simon had demanded for it. We had also a *matinée*, at the Conservatoire, with a like object, the main attraction of which was a “conference” by M. Louis Ratisbonne, instituting a comparison between Christmas in Paris and in Germany at the present moment; and a representation at the Comédie Française, in the course of which it was sought to excite renewed indignation against our *bêtes noires* the Prussians by the recital of the woes of some Alsatian pedagogue who had dared to espouse a Baden wife. To-day the big guns on the plateau of Avron sent five shells into Chelles, universally recognised as the key of the Prussian position.

Monday, Dec. 26.—To-day the cold is most intense, the thermometer in ordinary use here marking 12 deg. below zero. The talk is of numbers of men on duty at the outposts having been frozen to death during the last night or two, and of there being a thousand or more cases of frostbite in the ambulances. The military bulletin of yesterday evening, in making allusion to these circumstances, announces that, owing to the hardness of the ground, which is frozen to a depth of 20 in., the work in the trenches has had to be suspended, and that it has been decided to remove all the troops under shelter save such as are necessary to guard the occupied positions. Spite, however, of the sharp weather, three battalions of mobiles were to d off this morning to occupy the park of the Maison Blanche, and throw down the loopholed wall from behind which the enemy's sharpshooters were in the habit of picking off the sentinels at the French advanced posts. The operation, which was supported by the fire of the batteries on the plateau of Avron, was, it seems, completely successful. During the past few days the customary little sheds that line the boulevards at this season of the year have been erected, and now commence to display their wares, which, naturally enough, offer far fewer novelties than usual.

Tuesday, Dec. 27.—The *Journal Officiel* of to-day contains a cut-and-dried report of the Bourget affair, which plainly gives us to understand that all hope of successful sorties on our part is for the future given up. The object of our sacrifices, we are now told, has principally been to prolong the resistance to the limits of what is possible in order to give to France the time and the means to rise against the invader, and to organise the national defence, which is but poor comfort, since our latest news dates some eight or ten days back, and we are utterly ignorant whether France is vigorously pressing forward to our relief. The less sanguine amongst us have long since been of the opinion that, instead of relying upon the provinces, as upon Jupiter, we are to be saved, if at all, only by putting our own shoulders to the wheel.

Last night some loud detonations were heard by the sentries at Mont Valérien, and have led to the belief that the Prussians have blown up the railway-bridge across the Seine, on the line to Rouen, to check the advance on Paris of an army of succour from the north; and early this morning it was ascertained that they had demolished the Gare-aux-Boeufs of Choisy. But the great event of the day has been the unmasking of twelve formidable siege-batteries by the Prussians, of which the military report of this evening speaks in the following terms:—“The enemy has established three batteries of heavy weight above the road leading to the Hermitage at Raincy, three at Gagny, three at Noisy-le-Grand, and three at the bridge of Gournay. The firing from them, directed against forts Noisy, Rosny, Nogent, and our positions at Avron, continued with extreme violence the entire morning. All the troops remained firm at their post except some men who quitted the trenches at the commencement of the firing, by order of General Vinoy. The artillery combat lasted until five o'clock. Our losses are about eight killed and fifty wounded. Our firing, well kept up, must have caused the enemy serious losses within the range of our guns from the heights of Avron.” Upwards of 3000 shells were thrown by the Prussians in the course of the day, some few of which are said to have fallen within the enceinte at Belleville, about six miles distant.

The Government having requisitioned all the coal, which is being reserved for the cannon foundries and for gas, wherewith to inflate our balloons, also all the coke, which has latterly been rationed out in infinitesimal quantities, like our animal food, and all the long logs of wood such as the bakers use for heating their ovens, there has been a tremendous run upon ordinary firewood; and, although the price mounted up to something fabulous—6s. the cwt., exclusive of carriage and delivery, which run the cost up to about treble the ordinary rate—those who could afford it laid in a store, the consequence of which was that, in the course of a day or two, our supply of firewood was on the eve of being exhausted. The Government, to meet the difficulty, gave orders to cut down about six square miles of timber in the Bois de Boulogne and de Vincennes, and to fell hundreds of trees lining the principal roads out of Paris, and even the larger trees along the boulevards. Dépôts of firewood were also established, with the view of making gratuitous distributions of fuel to the poor. To-day, however, several of these dépôts were attacked by bands of shivering men and women, and the wood stored there carried off by main force, in addition to which, in the Elysée quarter and the neighbourhood of Père-la-Chaise, fences and palings were pulled down, trees and benches torn up, and even the substantial scaffolding in front of an unfinished house near the Arc-de-Triomphe, and numerous telegraph poles were carried away, to be set blazing on the thousands of cold hearths to be found all over Paris.

Wednesday, Dec. 28.—A proclamation has appeared to-day explaining the steps taken by the Government to provide the population of Paris with fuel, and calling upon the National Guards and all honest men to arrest the marauders and pillagers who respect neither private nor public property, and whom the Government denounce as accomplices of the enemy, while promising to punish them with the greatest severity.

The Prussian attack was resumed last night, and the firing continued with certain intermissions until two o'clock this morning. Later, according to the official report, it commenced again, but with less violence than yesterday. General Trochu rode out early to the plateau, and visited the trenches, where he addressed some words of encouragement to the troops. During the afternoon the Prussians are said to have brought up some field batteries and to have pelted away most furiously at the French positions on the plateau, which, according to the official report, was completely furrowed by the fire of eight converging batteries. While the men were concealed in the trenches, with the ground like so much granite through the frost opposing a resistance which caused almost every shell to burst, the French batteries, the parapets of which were almost as brittle as glass, were being struck full in front by shots from Chelles right and left, by the enfilading fire of Raincy and Gagny, and were pounded at in the rear from Noisy. The advanced forts came in for their share of the cannonade, and bore it stoically; but as for the plateau, this was no longer tenable. The official report is reduced to confess that the powerful artillery for which Paris had been kept waiting for weeks, almost for months, was unable to cope with the Krupp cannon, and orders were consequently given to the troops occupying the plateau to retire. The retreat commenced at six o'clock in the evening; but as there were something like a hundred guns, many of them of large calibre, to carry off, along the slippery roads and in perfect darkness—for even the camp fires were extinguished, so that they might not attract the enemy's fire—it is not surprising that it was three o'clock on the following morning before the mitrailleuses which had remained behind to protect the retreat were enabled to quit the plateau. Some accident happened with one or two of the large guns, but these were eventually got safely away. The Gardes Mobiles, exposed in the trenches for six-and-thirty hours to the Prussian cannonade, lost, it is said, about 300 in killed and wounded. One shell alone laid six victims low out of a party of nine gathered round the breakfast table of a commander of mobiles, who, together with his wife, was wounded, while only a single one of his guests escaped scathless.

Thursday, Dec. 29.—The military bulletin announcing the abandonment of the plateau of Avron had a most depressing effect upon the Parisians, who, without consoling news from outside, without firing, and almost without food, required just now a few crumbs of comfort to sustain their drooping spirits, and are now reduced to seek for these in the reflection that Avron will be equally too hot for the Prussians to hold. That the conditions of the defence will have to be transformed, as the bulletin tells us, can be well understood, in face of the tremendous cannonading which has been going on now for three days; but I doubt whether it is equally true that the new phase upon which we have entered will not affect either the means or the energy of the defence. If in our sorties we have been invariably driven back by the Prussian field artillery, what hope is there of breaking through the enemy's lines now that the terrible Krupp cannon are at length in position all round Paris, in works which we have been all along assured were being destroyed by our naval gunners as fast as they were constructed. To-day the Prussians are bombarding Forts Noisy, Rosny, and Nogent if anything fiercer than ever. In the course of five hours 155 shells have fallen on the barracks in the left wing of Fort Rosny; casemates believed to be impenetrable to both shot and shell have been rent and torn away; and from eight o'clock in the morning up till six this evening nearly a couple of thousand shells fell within the enceinte and on the scarp and counterscarp of Fort Rosny alone; and yet, with all this hail of bombs, it is said that very few of the naval gunners were injured, “the men standing to their pieces firm, resolute, vigilant, and undaunted.” One unlucky shell, however, wounded half a dozen men who had taken refuge in the same casemate. In the adjacent village only a few houses were damaged, and yet the road between Rosny and Avron was impassable from the number of projectiles that incessantly ploughed up the ground. The military report states that altogether between five and six thousand shells were thrown against the three forts in the course of the day. While the enemy's cannonade was still raging violently the sailors manning the guns at Fort Rosny were replaced for about a couple of hours by the artillery of the National Guard, when General Trochu, who chanced to be in the fort during this interval, ever ready as he at all times is to ingratiate himself with our citizen soldiers, complimented them on the steadiness of their fire.

La Vérité, which has for some time past been recommending peace, and expressing doubts as to the efficacy of General Trochu's famous plan, to-day informs its readers that it is no longer alone in its opinions on the latter point, and that one of the most youthful of the lawyers who form our Government—meaning, of course, M. Jules Ferry—had suggested his resignation, but that M. Jules Favre and M. Ernest Picard were opposed to this step, and General Trochu himself had flatly refused to take the hint given him.

Friday, Dec. 30.—M. Picard's paper, the *Electeur Libre*, denied last evening the accuracy of the statement in the *Vérité*, which seems to have answered its purpose, however, as most of to-day's papers comment upon it in terms unfavourable to the Governor of Paris. Altogether popular feeling is setting in steadily against Trochu, who certainly has the knack of failing in all the military operations he directs. A few days ago it was only the Republican Mayors who were energetically condemning him, but now his capacity is suspected in all quarters. *Le Temps* says, as though a capitulation were in contemplation, that “in the event of a final disaster the Government have come to the resolution either of resigning or retiring into one of the forts, being determined never to submit to the humiliation of a surrender.” This announcement has awakened a complete storm, and the Government are plainly told that “their movements are watched, and that they will never be permitted to desert the post they so audaciously usurped.”

The Prussian cannonade still continues against the eastern forts, but less violently than on the preceding days.

With the view, I suppose, of putting the Parisians in a good humour, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce announces in to-day's *Sicde* that the Government propose to inaugurate the new year by a distribution among the population of something like one hundred tons of preserved beef, in place of horse, and of 25 tons each of dried beans, coffee, and chocolate, together with a considerable quantity of olive oil. One is grateful for all one gets in our painfully hard circumstances; nevertheless, considering the biting cold which still prevails, not a few would have been glad of a little firewood wherewith to warm the food about to be served out to them.

Saturday, Dec. 31.—To-day the walls are covered with a new proclamation of the Governor of Paris, in which, in rapid strains, he notifies alike to “citizens and soldiers” that “the enemy, in despair at not being able to present Paris as a Christmas gift to Germany, adds the bombardment of our forts to the varied processes of intimidation he has already employed to weaken the defence.” He then remarks on the rumours afloat respecting divided counsels in the Government, says the troops are preparing for action, and that we shall all do our duty, and, finally, that the Government are closely knit in the design and hope of deliverance. Meanwhile the bombardment of the eastern forts continues, without, according to the official reports, doing any very serious damage; and the eventful year of 1870 comes to a close, so far as Paris is concerned, with the issue of General Schmitz's bulletin announcing that the enemy has augmented the number of his heavy batteries and has approached several of them towards the French points of attack. His projectiles have fallen plentifully to-day at Groslay, Droney, Bobigny, and Bondy, and some have even reached La Folie and Noisy le Sec. He has continued, at the same time, to bombard Forts Rosny, Nogent, and Noisy, causing, however, but trifling material damage, and wounding only a few men.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE WAR.

Several of the sketches made for this Journal by M. Jules Pelcoq, our Special Artist in the besieged and sorely-distressed city of Paris, to whose keen observation and skilful delineation we have owed a great number of the Illustrations hitherto presented, will be found reproduced in the Engravings for this week's Number, having been sent out of Paris by the balloon post. The largest Engraving, which occupies the two middle pages of the Paper, represents the scene at the Quai de la Mégisserie, between the Pont Neuf and the Pont au Change, where a party of the wounded combatants from some battlefield outside the ramparts, having been conveyed part of the distance by water, in one of the small river steam-boats that ply on the Seine, under the charge of the Ambulance or Field-Hospital Society, are disembarked and placed in hand-litters, to be transferred to the vans or covered carts awaiting them upon the quay, whence they are to be removed to the military hospitals in the town. The red-cross standard above the tent erected upon the landing-stage, with the same emblem displayed over the vans and waggon, proclaims the lamentable business in hand. It is evening, and the work is carried on by torchlight, the brandcardiers of the National Guard labouring, with the utmost diligence and care, to assist in speedily placing their unfortunate brothers in arms, who have been smitten by the enemy's shot or shell, in a situation where they may have their wounds attended to by the surgeons and nurses. There are some of those more slightly wounded, who have carried off such trophies as Prussian spiked helmets or needle-guns, which they show to admiring friends.

The rifle-shooting practice of some companies of National Guards, still undergoing their military instruction in the Park of Vincennes, is the subject of another of these Illustrations belonging to the defence of Paris. The remaining two presented in this Number relate to the want of fuel now experienced in the city, almost as severe a privation, in winter, as that of proper food. A store of coke yet existing on the premises of the Gas Company, at the Barrière d'Italie, is periodically distributed in small rations, by order of the Government, to the poorer classes of the people. Men, women, and children, assembling in great numbers at an early hour of the morning, with their baskets, bags, or scuttles, all too large for the slender portion to be allowed, may be seen awaiting the opening of the office doors; and their anxiety to share this dispensation can only be appreciated when we remember the intense cold of the Christmas week, and when the habits of the Parisians, less warmly clothed and, perhaps, less hardy than the English of the same rank in life, are considered also. There is very little wood left in store to burn, and its high price confines the domestic use of it to the richer classes. Many of the trees in the Bois de Boulogne and the Bois de Vincennes have been cut down, as well as those on the Boulevards, for this necessary purpose. The Bois de Boulogne, which was such a gay and fashionable promenade in the prosperous days of the Second Empire, is now a thing of the past. It had already served as pasture ground for thousands of sheep and cattle, collected together by the Government for provisioning Paris during the siege. The defensive works required also that much of the wood should be sacrificed; and now the severe weather renders it necessary that further extensive cuttings should be made in order to provide fuel for the shivering Parisians. Independently of this, however, and long before ordinary wood for firing was deficient, charcoal, the only fuel used for cooking purposes in the French capital, had become scarce. The Government immediately gave instructions for charcoal to be made in the Bois de Boulogne and Bois de Vincennes. One of our Engravings represents the preparation of this combustible in the Bois de Boulogne. In the background we see that portion of the wood not yet felled, from behind which rises the fortress of Mont Valérien. Nearer to the front is one of those café-châlets which in summer-time used to be thronged with promenaders; and here are many pointed stumps of the felled trees. The charcoal-burners in the foreground are engaged in removing heaps of charcoal, filling sacks, and conveying them to the two carts in the background. Others are either arranging the conical-shaped piles of wood, which, after being covered with earth, are set fire to, or are sawing the wood the requisite length; while one member of the fraternity is preparing the dinner of his comrades, near a couple of huts which have been erected for shelter and repose.

From our Special Artist at the Prussian head-quarters, Versailles, we have a sketch of the arrival of a number of German sailors, detached from the naval service, now that the Baltic is closed by frost, and sent as a reinforcement to the army beleaguering Paris. They were heartily welcomed by their countrymen of the land army. The same Artist, Mr. Landells, whose excursion to Orleans and the neighbourhood has been mentioned, also contributes the sketch of a party of French prisoners of war met by him along the road between Etampes and Orleans, whom he found in a most wretched plight, half starved, worn out by fatigue, and very scantily clothed. He passed through the village of Chevilly, near Orleans, a few days after the battles in which the army of General Aurelle de Paladines was defeated; and he saw the work of burying the slain French soldiers going on just outside that village. Another pencil has furnished us with a view of the Valley of the Loire, about five miles from Tours, with the ancient beacon-tower of feudal times, called the Lanterne de la Roche Corbon, which commands an extensive and agreeable prospect. This singular old tower, in shape resembling a modern factory chimney, stands about 50 ft. high, and is built on the verge of a limestone cliff, in the face of which are excavated some of the dwellings of the villagers of La Roche Corbon. They are snug and comfortable, faced with walls having doors and windows, prettily festooned with vines, and provided with neat little front gardens. A

large castle formerly stood here, but only a few fragments, besides the tower, with the underground dungeons and passages, remain to show what it was. The point of view is from La Roche Corbon, on the right or north bank of the Loire, looking in a south-westerly direction. The city of Tours lies down the river, to the right hand.

"THE HALF-HOUR BEFORE DINNER."

In a house conducted like that of No. 63, Tankerville-terrace, Bayswater, this purgatorial detention of thirty minutes in the drawing-room is a dreary trial of our courteous serenity and patience. The heads of that pretentious establishment have not the true spirit of hospitality. They provide, now and then, for an obligatory dinner-party, to prove that they have not forgotten their kinsfolk, and that they mean punctually to discharge conventional debts to their visiting acquaintance. A dinner is a feast, costing so many shillings a head; for tickets of admission you may apply to Mr. and Mrs. Fiddings, a genteel couple with £1000 a year to keep all things handsome and comfortable about them, in the decent style of London upper middle-class life. They have not the slightest notion of a dinner as a contrivance for the meeting and mutual introduction of persons who ought to be made known to each other. A party on such an occasion should be arranged to bring together people whose tastes and sympathies are reconcilable, if not congenial, and who are capable of agreeable and intelligent conversation. Mr. and Mrs. Fiddings, having never joined in any conversation beyond the exchange and circulation of small-talk phrases current in the frigid zone of their polite society, could not possibly be brought to understand the higher uses of dinner-giving. They do not practise that pleasant art as the best solvent of individual reserve, of partisan or sectarian prejudice, and of worldly pride; or the best stimulant of a free intellectual communion, "the feast of reason and the flow of soul." Being, as they are, insensible to these objects of social intercourse, the host and hostess of 63, Tankerville-terrace are satisfied in conscience when they invite indiscriminately a dozen of their unlucky friends, including family relations, to sit down to a sufficiency of meats and wines, no care being taken of the due admixture of personal characters and humours. Eat, drink, and be dull, is what they seem to say to every guest who passes their whitened doorstep, lured by a promise of festivity, within a few minutes of seven o'clock.

And when half-past seven is marked by the gilt Paris clock on the mantelpiece, while the summons to walk into the dining-room is still delayed, it must be confessed that the power of dulness is heavily laid upon such a company as our Artist presents to view. The moment he has chosen, however, for this Illustration, is one about to break the spell of commonplace stupidity and decorous apathy, by the coming announcement of a domestic disaster. This mishap may even relieve the spirits of those who can laugh at the loss of good victuals, heightened by the involuntary exhibition of Mr. and Mrs. Fiddings' vexation and sudden confusion. The boy in buttons, or page, whose name was Billy at his mother's home, but is Albert in his present livery and service, has just approached Mrs. Fiddings with a message of dismay from the frightened cook outside the drawing-room door. A volcanic eruption in the kitchen chimney, at the moment when the soup and boiled fish were removed from the fire, and when the roasts were approaching perfection, has brought down a vast quantity of soot, with clouds of foul smoke, and spoiled the fine Christmas turkey, above all, which was to have figured at the head of the table. We are really sorry for the lady of the house, as she hastens out to meet and confer with poor Martha on the best means of mending the repast. Some portions of the turkey may perhaps be hashed; the side-dishes at least are safe; a piece of beef too, the boiled chickens, and game-pie; there will be enough of good food for us all. The worst that is to be feared is a further prolongation of our doleful durance in this place of helpless expectation where we can find nothing to do and nothing to talk about, as we neither know nor care for each other, and we suspect that Fiddings and his wife do not care much for any of us.

There is Frank Parry, of the 18th Bengal Cavalry, on his furlough from Indian service, leaning against the chimney-piece, and secretly consulting his watch as if that would tell him how long it will be ere dinner is served. He ought rather to be making himself amiable to the two young ladies, Emily and Anna Branscombe, one of whom he will presently be requested to support with his manly arm in their procession to the banqueting-hall. They are left, we observe, to the assiduous but violent and overstrained civility of awkward Tom Fiddings, who exerts himself with prodigious energy in the manufacture of all sorts of inappropriate talk. As for John Charlton Fiddings, Esquire, the master of the house, he is a miserable man at this juncture; for he has perceived, by the well-known flush of anger on his wife's brow, during her colloquy with the juvenile page, that something is amiss in the festive preparations. He cannot escape, in the next ten minutes, from that dreadful bore, old Meggot, of the Palatine Club, who is forcing him to hear an exposition of the Russo-Turkish question, while he would fain go and see what is the matter in his own kitchen or cellar. He dares not look down, at his left hand, to encounter the fierce glances of his severe mother-in-law, Mrs. Bremridge. The old lady has religiously fasted since breakfast, disapproving both of luncheons and late dinners, and resolving to bring up her temper, as well as her appetite, to a proper state of exasperation; so that she is now almost ready to bite a piece off his nose. Worthy old Bremridge, having taken his bread-and-cheese and beer at two o'clock, when he went into the City, is not so completely exhausted; but he has fallen comfortably asleep in his chair. It is to be hoped that he will not be awakened, before dinner is ready, by the ill-bred children, quarrelling for a tiny toy flag, whose "Fight for the Standard" is waged in alarming proximity to grandpapa's gouty toe. Bremridge has £60,000 to leave at his demise, and Maria Fiddings is his only child; so that she and her husband will do well to take care of the old gentleman's comfort, when he comes up from Dorsetshire to stay Christmas with them. It is of less consequence what may happen with the two poor relations in the background, who are by this time hungry enough, since they have spared the usual mid-day meal to profit more fully by the good cheer of Tankerville-terrace. They are now beginning to wish themselves fairly set down to a basin of hot tripe, a plate of cold mutton, or even a red herring, instead of this protracted ordeal of real hunger and hope deferred. The chances are that the pert little daughter at Mrs. Fiddings's side, overhearing the dismal news from the kitchen, will tell her cousin Tom or the young ladies, so that the fact will become public in the drawing-room before dinner can be ready. Hypocritical condolences will be offered by the displeased guests, and the host and hostess will spend much breath in vain apologies and excuses, to the detriment of all social harmony and freedom of spirit. It will be a happy release when ten o'clock brings the cup of coffee, after the solemn sipping of claret, and permits the wearied victims of a mismanaged

entertainment to take their leave of Mr. and Mrs. Fiddings. No friendships have been formed or improved—no glow of sincere feeling has been kindled—no interesting knowledge has been communicated—no wit has flashed—no gaiety has sparkled—no kindly humour has cheered their meeting. They part as much strangers to each other as when they arrived. Disappointment and indigestion are the sure results. The only comfortable creature in this party is the cat upon a soft stool before the drawing-room fire.

WILLIAM EDWARD FROST, R.A.

The election of Mr. Frost to full membership of the Royal Academy may have been a surprise to some who forget that the artist, early in his career, fairly and fully established a claim to the higher honour the Academy has to bestow. That he had to wait an almost unprecedented length of time for this distinction was his misfortune, but did not diminish his right. Moreover, his successes were won in a walk of art which it is one of the first duties of academies to foster and encourage. The public may care little for mythological and allegorical themes; but without ideal aims, generic treatment, and study of beauty and grace in its highest expression in the female form, a school will inevitably sink into prosaic degradation. To be condemned for five-and-twenty years to the "Limbo," as it is called, and the "Limbo of forgetfulness," as it often proves, of the Associateship—that is, to a position of certified inferiority—for veterans to see young men passed quickly over them, and hope deferred, year after year, is sufficient to damp the ardour of the most sanguine and to discourage the stoutest heart. In the evidence before the Fine-Art Commissioners several members expressed their opinion that the Associate class might with advantage be done away with altogether, unless it were made to comprehend all artists of merit and position, each being entitled to vote in the election of members—which would be an incomparably fairer arrangement.

William Edward Frost (we rely chiefly on an authentic memoir which has appeared in the *Art-Journal*) was born at Wandsworth, in September, 1810. He received his first instruction in drawing from Miss Evatt, a clever amateur. His father gave every facility to him in his early efforts to become an artist, and at fifteen introduced him to Etty, then painting "Mercy Interceding for the Vanquished," and the sight of this great picture seems to have directed the young artist in the choice of the path he subsequently took in art. By Etty's advice Frost was placed in the school of Mr. Sass, in Bloomsbury-street, since managed by Mr. Cary; he also drew in the British Museum. In 1829 he was admitted as student of the Royal Academy, where in 1839 he carried off the gold medal, the subject being "Prometheus Bound by Force and Strength." The picture appeared in the Academy exhibition the following year. Prior to this, however, he had exhibited portraits; his early practice having been confined principally to portraits, as many as three hundred of which were painted in fourteen years. In the cartoon competition in Westminster Hall, his drawing, "Una Alarmed by Fauns," was awarded a third-class prize of £100. In 1844, were exhibited at the British Institution and Royal Academy respectively, the "Bacchanalian Dance" and "Nymphs Dancing," the first important pictures of a series which for several years formed leading attractions in those exhibitions, which recalled his friend and prototype Etty in choice of subject if not in treatment, and which reflected not a little credit on the English school.

We regret that we have space only to mention some of the more important succeeding pictures in their order of production. Among them are the following:—"Sabrina" (1845), a very fanciful and elegant decorative design, the passage of the attendant nymphs through the water (that is, beneath its surface) being finely expressed by the undulating lines of their forms and draperies. This picture was purchased by the Art-Union of London, and a good engraving by Lightfoot was issued to its subscribers. "Diana Surprised by Actæon" (1846), another fanciful and excellently-composed work, which secured his election the same year as Associate of the Academy; "Una," a subject from Spenser's "Faerie Queene" (1847), purchased by her Majesty; "Euphrosyne" (1848), purchased by Mr. E. Bicknell—from this picture were, by desire of the Queen, copied three figures forming the group of "L'Allegro"; "The Syrens" (1848), a work of great brilliancy and beauty of colour; "The Disarming of Cupid," painted for the late Prince Consort, and "Andromeda" (1850); "Wood-Nymphs" (1851), painted for the late Lord C. Townshend, at the sale of whose pictures in 1854 it realised 431 gs.; "May Morning" (1852); "Chastity," illustrative of Milton's "Comus" (1854), one of the artist's most poetical, elaborate, and varied yet symmetrical designs; "The Graces" and "Bacchanalians" (1856); "Venus and Cupid in the Absence of Adonis" (1860). From similar sources were derived the subjects of recent works, some of which will doubtless be more or less familiar to the reader; the artist, however, diverged somewhat for the themes of "The Finding of Moses" (1863), "Cymon and Iphigenia" (1865), and "By the Waters of Babylon" (1869). The largest picture Mr. Frost has executed in the last decade was that of a nymph and groups of cupids, illustrating the song of the "Tempest," "Come unto these yellow sands" (1866), painted for Mr. Gibbon, of Blackheath. The "Aurora and Zephyrs" (1868) was painted for Mr. T. Baring. These larger works have been interspersed with countless smaller ones, often gems of refined fancy and graceful, finished execution, some of which, as that of a nereid reposing in a "Sea Cave," have been widely popular through the medium of engraving. In later years the artist has spent much time sketching and designing in water colours.

The portrait is engraved from a photograph by Mr. John Watkins.

The new lighthouse built by the London Trinity House on Souter Point, at a great expenditure of money, upon a bold headland equidistant from the Tyne and Wear, was lighted with the electric light for the first time on Wednesday evening. The spot is a very dangerous one.

At the meeting of the assessment committee of the guardians of the Windsor Union, held in the board-room of the union house, Old Windsor, on Saturday, the trustees of the Ascot Grand Stand, represented by Mr. Darvill, appealed against the raising of the assessment of this building to the poor rate from £2000 to £3000. The committee eventually confirmed the rate.

The lunatic asylum at Colney Hatch, the home of some 2400 patients of all classes, was last week the scene of a festive display—the now annual winter entertainment given to the patients by the visiting magistrates of Middlesex, the ruling authorities of the asylum. The large dining-hall was fitted up with a stage, on which were presented several pieces of a light character, interspersed with singing and dancing by well-known performers. In the evening the patients and their keepers held a ball, in which some of the visitors joined, and this was kept up for several hours. The patients evidently enjoyed the whole entertainment.

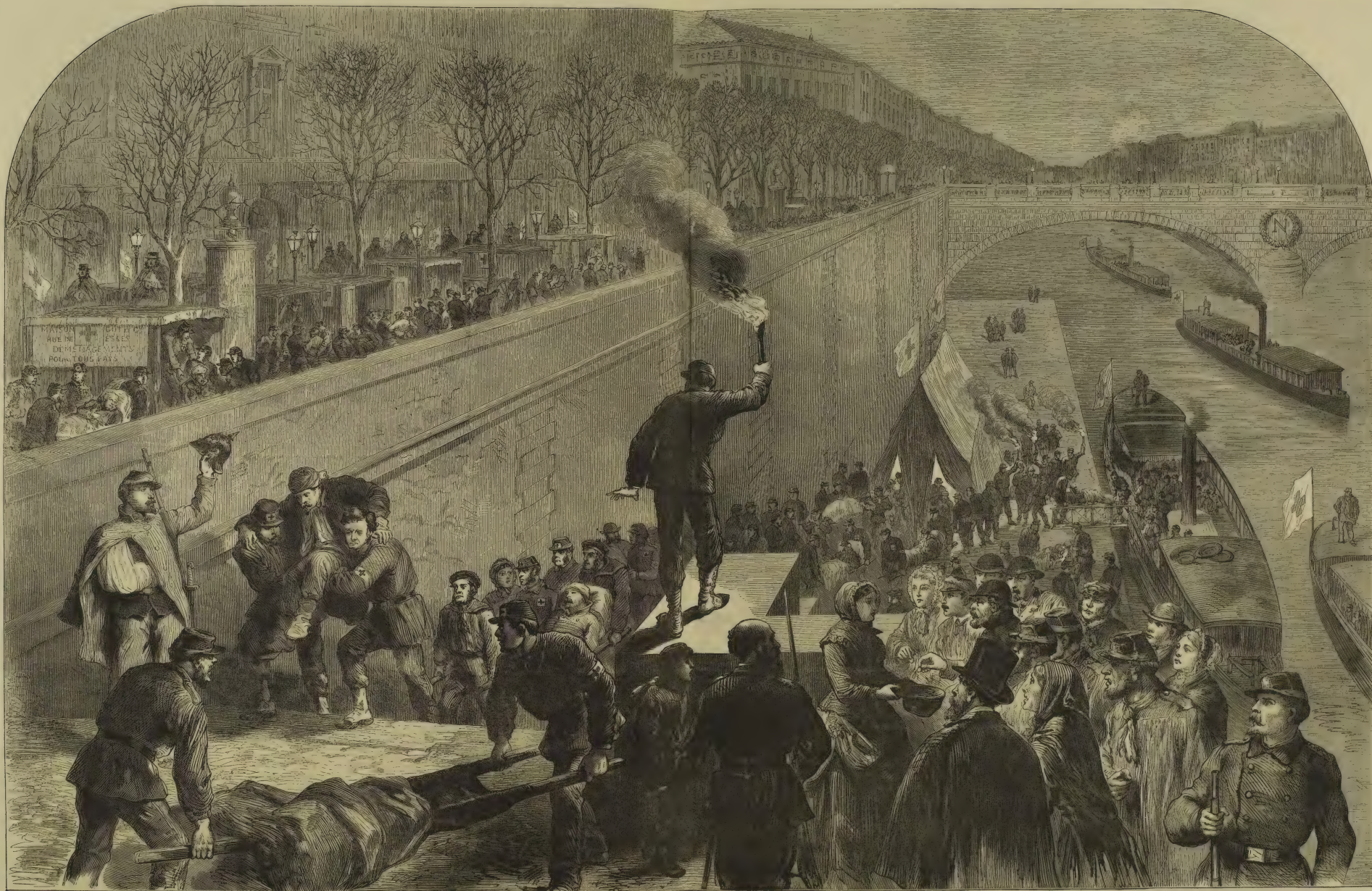
THE LATE MR. GEORGE WILSON.

The sudden death, three weeks ago, in a railway carriage between Manchester and Liverpool, of Mr. George Wilson, the well-known chairman of the Anti-Corn-Law League, was mentioned by us at the time. This very active and useful public man was in the sixty-third year of his age, as he was born in April, 1808, at Eyam, in the High Peak of Derbyshire. He was brought up in Manchester; his father, who was a corn merchant, having removed to that town, where the late George Wilson lived from his childhood. It was in the corn trade, and afterwards in the manufacture of starch, but latterly in the management of railways, that his particular business occupations were laid; but he soon gained some local distinction as a reformer and as a leading promoter of good social undertakings. One of his earliest efforts was in the movement for obtaining a charter of incorporation for Manchester as a municipal borough. Mr. Wilson was the honorary secretary of the committee of inhabitants formed to pursue that object, in which Mr. Cobden was likewise engaged. It was attained in 1838, after some resistance from interested and prejudiced parties; and a testimonial was presented to Mr. Wilson in acknowledgment of his exertions. He was also elected one of the first members of the newly-constituted Town Council. A few months later, in January, 1839, was formed the Anti-Corn-Law Association, of which both Mr. Cobden and Mr. Wilson, as rising Manchester men, though comparatively young, became two most effective members. Mr. John Benjamin Smith, M.P. for Stockport, was the president; and Mr. Wilson was one of the executive committee. In 1841 the title was changed to that of the Anti-Corn-Law League. Mr. Wilson was elected chairman, and occupied that prominent and influential position until the repeal of the corn laws was obtained, in February, 1846. "During that period of five years," says a Manchester writer, "Mr. Wilson presided over larger public meetings than had ever before been held to agitate constitutionally for a change in the law. The rare tact with which he controlled a gathering of thousands of men at a time of great political excitement, the patience and good humour with which he directed matters from the chair, earned for him the reputation of being the best chairman of the day. But he was not only a skilful director of a public meeting. He came to the meeting with a carefully-prepared statement of facts bearing pertinently and immediately upon the subject to be discussed; and, though without the graces of a great orator, the commonsense of his statements and the direct logic of his arguments won for them more influential regard than is usually gained by rhetorical flights, however charming to the fancy." When the League was dissolved, the Council of that body presented Mr. Wilson with £10,000, having first voted £70,000 to Mr. Cobden, as a compensation for the loss of his thriving business through his devotion to the cause. About this time Mr. Wilson was found to be one of the most active promoters and directors of a new company for giving telegraphic communication to the country; as a director of the Electric Telegraph Company, so early as 1847, he was urging forward the laying down a line of electric wires from Manchester to Leeds. He continued to exercise great influence over the advanced Liberal party in Lancashire and the West Riding of Yorkshire, as well as in the city of Manchester, where he was virtually the head of a permanent committee at Newall's-buildings, charged with the constant supervision and furtherance of such measures as were still desired in the way of free trade, financial economy, Parliamentary reform, a cheaper and better administrative system, a pacific foreign policy, and popular education. In the years 1850, 1851, and 1852, Mr. Wilson's labours on behalf of these objects were continuous, as well as in the defence of what had been achieved while there remained any chance of a reaction. There was some talk of reimposing the corn laws, if the Conservative party could regain power. The weakness of Lord John Russell's first Ministry, the division caused by Lord Palmerston's removal, and the accession of Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli, in 1852, made it seem a critical period for the cause of free trade and for all political reform. Mr. Wilson's vigilant sagacity and his command over the agencies by which public opinion could be aroused and informed were again employed to advantage upon this occasion, in co-operation with his friend Mr. Cobden, and with Mr. Bright and Mr. Milner Gibson, then representatives of Manchester in Parliament. Upon the abatement, however, of that political agitation, Mr. Wilson was invited to become managing director of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway. He accepted this post, and, some years later, was elected deputy chairman of the company; three years ago, upon the death of Mr. Wickham, he was elected chairman. In these administrative offices he displayed the same practical ability, the same tact and judgment, with the same firm patience, gentle temper, and equanimity, that he had shown in his political conduct. He still took a considerable part in electioneering and in directing public manifestations of opinion. The extension of the franchise and the ballot, and, more especially, a fair distribution of seats, in justice to wealthy and populous towns, were the points to which he chiefly strove to direct attention. He also consistently opposed the war panic with regard to France, and the war spirit, whether excited against Russia, China, or America; he shared with Messrs. Bright and Gibson their sacrifice of popularity on this account. A reduction of our military and naval expenditure was strongly advocated by him. Having been chairman of the Leeds Conference, in 1860, upon the reforms needful in our representative system, Mr. Wilson naturally kept the lead when that movement was renewed in 1866, after the American Civil War and the distress in our manufacturing districts, which had caused its temporary suspension. The National Reform Union, of which he was president, with its headquarters in Manchester, was a body of far higher character and of greater weight than the Reform League in London; and there can be no doubt that its preparations for the expected controversy had much more effect upon the Derby Ministry of 1867 than anything said or done by Mr. Edmond Beales and his associates here. It is not, indeed, too much to claim for those indefatigable and indomitable North of England Radicals, who then once more rallied round their ancient standard, upheld by such men as Mr. George Wilson, a large portion of the credit due for the Reform Act passed by means of Mr. Disraeli in that remarkable Session.

The portrait from which our Engraving is drawn was taken by a photographer about ten years ago, and is an excellent representation of what Mr. Wilson was like in the time of his more frequent public appearances. His death is much regretted by a very large acquaintance, who esteemed him for his many social and private virtues, as well as for his public services and achievements.

Mr. Benjamin Whitworth, the ex-member for Drogheda, has been elected chairman of the United Kingdom Alliance.

Two contracts for shoes for the French army are in course of execution at Ipswich. The first contract comprises 20,000 pairs, and the second 30,000 pairs.



WOUNDED FROM THE RAMPARTS LANDED AT THE QUAI DE LA MEGISSERIE, PARIS.
(SKETCH BY BALLOON POST.)

LITERATURE.

The Life of Isambard Kingdom Brunel. By Isambard Brunel, B.C.L. (Longmans.) "Like father, like son" is a saying which applies with peculiar and honourable appropriateness to the two Stephensons and the two Brunels; and whoever neglects to read any account, if only it be trustworthy, which can be obtained of the lives led, the qualities exhibited, and the works wrought by such men not only misses an opportunity of being deeply and healthily interested and entertained, but culpably omits to pluck the proffered fruit from a salutary branch of education. With the sole exceptions, perhaps, of Charles, son of Pepin the short, and of Alfred, your Alexanders, Peters, Fredericks, Napoleons, and others, on whom adulation, perpetuated by history, has conferred the name of great, seem but poor creatures by the side of him who conceived and constructed the Thames Tunnel, and of him to whose genius and skill were due the Great Western Railway with its Box Tunnel, the Great Britain, and the Great Eastern. If, for the proper understanding of the general position assumed by the various countries of the world, it be necessary, as it is, to study the biographies of princes, so, for a right appreciation of the special progress made in any direction or directions by any single nation, it is a bounden duty to peruse with close attention such works as *Smiles's Lives of the Engineers*, and as the volume now under consideration. It is a large one; but, had it been even larger, it would have been only the more welcome, since it would, probably, have contained a more liberal allowance of domestic detail and a fuller view of the natural man disconnected from the professional engineer. A glimpse, however, equivalent to a revelation, is afforded in the story of the almost fatal half-sovereign which was swallowed during an attempt to amuse children with some tricks of conjuring, and which for a while kept all the world in suspense from the value of the life in jeopardy, the singular nature of the accident, and the novel and ultimately successful means resorted to by the renowned surgeons who removed it. The book, instructive though it is, can hardly be called encouraging; for few, indeed, can hope to attain, even if they feel the *quant. suff.* of genius, to so much patience, perseverance, courage, and diplomacy.

Like Father, Like Son. By the Author of "Lost Sir Massingberd," &c. (Tinsleys.) This is in many respects a wonderful story—not much inferior, from the miraculous point of view, and far superior, as a specimen of artistic composition and masterful writing, to that of the famous Baron Munchausen. The society to which the reader is introduced is rather repellent and alarming than pleasant and interesting; but there is a large class of persons who, so far as their reading is concerned, prefer bad company to good. The scene, for the most part, shifts from Pandemonium to Tyburnia and *vice versa*. Tyburnia, however, is here used in a sense different from the ordinary, and is intended to signify the place or state of convicted, or in a fair way to be convicted, felons. There are, nevertheless, episodic passages wherein the author displays his well-known and remarkable power of describing the tender and the fiercer moods of lovers, the strength of maternal affection, the machinery invented by men for the conversion of their law-offending fellows, and the picturesqueness of inanimate nature. It were superfluous, perhaps, to add that no small ingenuity is evinced in the preparation of surprises, and that exhilarating touches of humour are seasonably administered. The wildness and extravagance of the characters and incidents seem frequently to have suggested the use of language having similar qualities; and in few novels are the infernal regions, whether under the form of Gehenna or its monosyllabic English equivalent, so constantly brought into prominent notice. The significance of the title may be best gleaned from the reason given for the "misfortune" which befel the hero. "It was the Carew blood," says an authority, "as did it." And the particular Carew alluded to has evidently been constructed "on the lines" of several more or less notorious aristocrats of sporting renown, whose eccentricities are all combined in him alone; but the heart given to him is that of Beelzebub. Indeed, for bold and even audacious conceptions and rapidity of action the tale, especially throughout the first volume, has seldom if ever been surpassed. Still it should be stated, to prevent misapprehension, that the author, though he is thorough in his delineation of the diabolical, is clearly moved by the spirit not of admiration but of satire and reprobation. It would, of course, be very unlike his practice to forego any chance originality; and he, therefore, takes advantage of competitive examinations so far as to bring into the arena a youth who ekes out his quarterly allowance by personating well-born but idiotic candidates, which is an idea not yet much "blown upon."

Annals of Oxford. By John Cordy Jeaffreson, B.A., Oxon. (Hurst and Blackett.) Here are two large volumes about which one is almost tempted to use the language employed by the author himself, when he says (vol. i., p. 346) of a certain publication that "its paper, type, and binding are beyond praise." But, strong as the temptation is to write down just so much and no more, it shall be resisted, and impartial testimony shall be borne to the fact that, if there were any call for such a work as the author has taken in hand, he has made it almost as readable as anything of the kind could be. It is a piece of sheer bookmaking, but it is done by a master of the art. Certainly the tone is a little patronising, and the wit or humour may be said to incline at one time towards slang and at another towards ponderosity; but, on the whole, an agreeable composition has been the result of the author's efforts. Why poor Shakspeare should have been dragged into the business and had his name obtruded upon the first page of the first chapter is only to be explained upon the supposition that the great bard, in the opinion of some writers, is, like the Jove of Roman poets, the alpha and the omega of all things—"Hinc omne principium, huc refer exitum." The work, it should be observed, does not trench at all upon the ground exceedingly well occupied, a year or two ago, by Mr. G. V. Cox, with his "Recollections of Oxford," published by Messrs. Macmillan and Co. The latter publication, if memory may be trusted, contained almost entirely personal reminiscences; whereas the "Annals" is chiefly a record of things appertaining to what has been touched upon by more or less ancient chroniclers. To those who care a button whether Oxford or Cambridge be the more ancient University the volumes may be heartily recommended; for the question is discussed with cool equity and, it may be thought, with unmerited prolixity. Of one thing everybody may rest assured—the "Annals" are by no means dry.

Æschylus. By Reginald S. Copleston, B.A. (William Blackwood and Sons.) This is one of the best volumes amongst the generally excellent series of "Ancient Classics for English Readers." Two exhaustive chapters are devoted to an explanation of the circumstances which led to and influenced the Greek drama, and to an exposition of the characteristics which distinguished Æschylus. Then follow five chapters in which the soldier-poet's extant plays are discussed, and specimens of his style exhibited by means of translations judiciously and equitably, if not quite unexceptionably, selected. It is not everybody who will be able to catch the

author's enthusiasm, and believe that every Greek was beautiful in face and person; but, it must be remembered, that the series is not intended for those who have, as it were, a personal acquaintance with Thersites and Socrates. Nor must it shock the classical scholar if he find himself invited to a dramatic representation at Athens, and, nevertheless, have to put up with such unheard-of deities as Jove, and Mercury, and Minerva; for the series is intended for a readerhood to whom the names mentioned are likely to be more familiar than Zeus and Hermes, and Athena. But, surely, uniformity should be kept up, and an interchange of nomenclature avoided.

The World of Moral and Religious Anecdote. By Edwin Paxton Hood. (Hodder and Stoughton.) The compiler of this stout volume has collected, from various sources, a multitude of anecdotes, of which it is often possible to see the humour but sometimes difficult to perceive the morality or religiousness. It is true that they nearly always refer to persons who have left behind them a reputation for morality or immorality, and who were in some way connected with the outward observance of religion, and, so far, the anecdotes may be entitled to the epithets conferred upon them; but that they always tend to promote the cause of religion and morality more than that of profanity and certain vices cannot be confidently affirmed. For instance, there are to be found in the volume two stories which especially seem to bring into contempt prayer and sobriety. One tells how the Japanese have invented a praying-machine, by means of which they can offer up even more than the required number of prayers; and the other how Sir Hercules Langrishe, being asked "Have you finished all that port (three bottles) without assistance?" answered "No, not quite that; I had the assistance of a bottle of madeira." They are, no doubt, amusing; but they suggest, if anything, neglect of religious duties and (if you wish to furnish up your wit) an excessive use of intoxicating liquors. The compiler attributes to anecdotes more of historical value than the majority of men would accord to them; but, though it be granted that they are for the most part either utter fabrications or "improved" accounts, their agreeability and impressiveness cannot fail to be proved by an occasional dip into his compilation.

FINE ARTS.

OLD MASTERS AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

Having already reviewed the most important works in the Great Room and the principal treasures of Lord Dudley's collection, we invite attention to the contents of the remaining smaller rooms, commencing with "Gallery No. 1," where will be found a larger proportion of the productions of recently-deceased English masters. The reader who has accompanied us will have made acquaintance with some of the finest works of the greatest masters of the Continental schools; and, so prepared—with eyes educated, with judgment elevated, and taste refined—he can hardly fail to experience a deep sense of disappointment before many of the efforts of our own painters. The opportunities for comparison here afforded are in the highest degree instructive; and many a contemporary estimate has to be greatly modified, if not wholly reversed. Artists who have lately gone from among us full of honours, and whose vacant places we saw none to fill, here already shrink into insignificance. And, when we think of the best work of their successors displayed on these walls in the spring, we can hope for no immediate improvement. It is, of course, unfair to compare the productions of a single year and a single school with the choicest residuum of several schools and centuries. Yet throughout the single century that the English school has had anything like a national existence shortcomings have characterised it of a kind that are not to be found in any of the great foreign schools. The natural powers of its best men have been unregulated, and therefore more or less one-sided, limited, and uncertain. Our favourites we prize only for some felicity of manner, due to a particular idiosyncrasy; but from first to last there have been evidences of imperfect knowledge or incompleteness of technical expression. The reason for this is obvious. Artistic education under conditions such as have uniformly obtained whenever and wherever art has received a great development has never been attainable in England. The consequences must therefore remain the same until we have a method of fine-art instruction that is not a hollow pretence, and until a school really is formed by association, and the sum of its experience is accumulated by systematic transmission from master to pupil.

The observations in the preceding, we hope not misplaced, digression will be found to be borne out on examination of the works of our painters here, particularly the portraits. Portraiture affords the best test to apply, for there is no evasion of its difficulties, and its recent prodigious decline amongst us (admitted as that decline is on all hands) must be of serious import. We hesitate not to say, then, that both Reynolds and Gainsborough, our best painters in this department, manifestly suffer in their works from their imperfect training, and for this cause must take rank below the great foreign masters. Reynolds derived what is technically superior in his works—that is, his principles of colouring and effect—from the Veretians, Rembrandt, and the Flemings; but, from original want of discipline, his draughtsmanship remained defective, and was never thorough and exact. Probably the consciousness of this deficiency helped to induce him to take refuge in the theory and practice of generalisation. In portraits of men, where particular truth is more needed, he gave what we see in a passing glance—the general impression and leading characteristics, gesture, and expression—hence, though his treatment is often novel, owing to this generic slowness, to suggesting, merely, where he should have realised, and to a degree of uniformity of lighting and method, his works possess something of a family likeness—more so than those of the great foreign masters. Look at two of Reynolds's most characteristic male portraits here—that of the short-sighted Baretta (37) reading a paper, and that of Sterne (36), with the waggishly-twinkling eye and gathering smile, and with forefinger to his temple, meditating some humorous innuendo; then look at those two wonderful portraits of Moroni, the "Spanish Warrior" (10), and the so-called "Titian's Schoolmaster;" and in the two latter the vastly superior force of individuality (that first essential of portraiture) will be at once apparent. These, also, are intensely suggestive—the one of latent feline ferocity, in the dulled fire of the eye and the compressed lips; the other (which we engraved some years back), of genial, bright-eyed, intelligent age, reposing in meditative, lettered ease. But they are far more than merely suggestive; they are vivid, almost vital, realisations. Here is no vague indicative "breadth;" on the contrary, every structure is thoroughly modelled, the textures exactly rendered, and every trait delineated with minute accuracy.

The influence of Reynolds's theories and practice on his followers is allowed to have been in many cases pernicious. It is therefore important to discriminate the technical failings and fallacies of the painter from the special natural gifts of the man; and if we would see our present portraiture elevated from its degradation it is necessary to select the best models. Reynolds's great inequality and the mischief which time has

already effected on most of his works must also be taken into consideration. On the other hand, none can be insensible to the largeness and dignity of his style; his keen, natural perception of refined grace, in womanhood; and his almost unrivalled felicity in catching the sweet, engaging naïveté of childhood. To the illustrations of his special faculty, cited in our former article, we may add the lovely seated half-length of a lady (112), from Petworth; and the Marquis of Westminster's group of "Lady Ormonde and her Child" (41), delightful for its sentiment of loving maternity.

Gainsborough, far more than Reynolds, was self-taught. He gained nothing from studies abroad, though he doubtless owed something to his adoration of Vandyke. The case is very different, however. Gainsborough has had no followers; he exerted no dangerous influence; the man would be a simpleton that attempted to imitate him. Few painters that ever lived achieved so much by the sheer force of natural genius. To an organisation of the most exquisite sensibility—to music as well as to forms and colours—Nature added the rare gift of a facility and obedience of hand that could keep pace with or be controlled by the utmost rapidity or delicacy of perception. Hence his works are purely idiosyncratic; they generally fall far short of the great masters in equable disciplined power, yet occasionally they snatch a grace almost beyond the reach of art. His deficiencies, in all but a few exceptional efforts, cannot, however, be ignored: he was prone to impatient superficiality; the mass of his works are but slight, hasty, tinted sketches. And the same impatience of temperament led him to adopt conventional scribbling modes of execution, often excessively mannered and arbitrary. Gainsborough's female portraits have an unfailing airy grace and are sometimes of fascinating loveliness, but they are also apt to be artificial and occasionally approach meretriciousness. His male portraits are usually thin, over-refined, and consequently wanting in manliness. The "Doctor Johnson" (42), for example, has a gentle and suave air which we can scarcely credit to the rough lexicographer. The portrait of "Henrietta, Countess of Grosvenor" (15), painted at Bath in 1767, companion to the picture of the first Earl exhibited last year, has the dainty refinement and aerial colouring which distinguish the painter's female portraits. Gainsborough's admiration of Vandyke is testified by his spirited and congenial copy of the portrait of the "Duc d'Arenberg" (83). With the mention of a pure and sweet portrait of Mrs. Gregory (54), by that not unworthy successor of Reynolds, Raeburn, and a half-length of Mrs. Hart Davis (33), an average example of Lawrence's clever artificial manner, we pass to the English landscapes.

Prominent in interest among these are Constable's "Hay Wain" (16), "Arundel Mill" (4), the Cenotaph erected by Constable's friend, Sir George Beaumont, in the grounds of Coleorton Hall, to the memory of Sir Joshua Reynolds (to whom Sir George had sat), and others, most of them contributed by the painter's son and daughter. The most important is the "Hay Wain"—a team dragging the empty wain through a shallow stream, with a road and roadside cottage embosomed among trees glittering from a recent shower, other trees bordering the opposite side of the rivulet, and overhead a sky chequered with rain-cloud and pale sunlight. It is certainly astonishing what fulness of effect Constable attains, and what exhilarating enjoyment he affords, from the simple materials of his native Suffolk. He does so, while treating them with realistic feeling, in virtue of his strong sense of the picturesque, his powerful yet transparent colouring, and his bold manipulation, especially of impasto. It can readily be understood why these qualities, like those which distinguish the works of Bonington, when revealed at the Louvre in 1824, should have created a great sensation and had a marked influence on French art, coming, as they did, at a time when French landscape was wholly enslaved to those classical traditions to which it has partially returned. Still, though such realism was a novelty to the French, Constable's principles were too limited, his art is again too simply the outcome of a particular organisation to really found a school: among ourselves he has had very few followers, and no student dreams of consulting him now. His observation was confined to a very narrow sphere, and his effects are limited almost to one single phase of nature. His rough execution could not express the gradations of distance and aerial perspective, and his touch does not describe the variety of textures in natural objects or discriminate even the typical forms of vegetation. "Old Crome's" very masterly and far more descriptive brushwork (see the trees in Nos. 35 and 7) and his fine sense of colour in mass are surprising when we recall the adverse conditions of obscurity and neglect in which he lived at Norwich. It is obvious, however, that he was much indebted to study of the Dutch masters. We need not dwell on the minor painters, Morland, West, De Loutherbourg, James Ward, the animal-painter, Callcott, Stuart Newton ("Lear and Cordelia"), and Stothard, whose "Jacob's Ladder" is pure in sentiment, but possesses an elegant conventional suggestion of the drawing-room or "Book of Beauty" rather than of religious art. The hot and coarse "Slave Market" (12), ascribed to Muller, is clearly by the painter of the fictitious "Turner" (40) already noticed, and belongs to the same proprietor. These, with two equally spurious "Constables," formed, we believe, part of a batch, all credited to one and the same too-skilful imitator, which were not long back entered for sale at Foster's, and, on detection, withdrawn. Of more recently deceased English painters, Dyce, though hard and harsh, best bears the test of this exhibition by thoroughness of workmanship—see his "Jacob and Rachel" (59) and "Joash Shooting the Arrow of Deliverance" (99).

Available space, not relative importance, must regulate our comments on a few unnoticed pictures by foreign masters in the first two rooms. Lord Warwick's Rembrandt (77), a "Burgomaster," or standard-bearer to a corps of civic guards, is a fine work, but rather less intensely realised than usual, and it seems to have been overladen with warm glazes. The "Woman Taken in Adultery" (63) is a good picture of the school of Titian; and the portrait of "Monsignore Lorenzo Pucci" (87), under the name of Raphael (?), is a fine work of the school, whether a copy or original by another hand. Carlo Dolci's "Saint Cecilia" (81), once so popular; Nicholas Poussin's "Il Riposo" (85), with the playful cherubs (a peculiar development of art, both technical and religious); "Kermesse at Antwerp" (80), by Teniers; a "Cima di Conegliano;" the portrait of the Duke of Montrose (98), probably by Dobson, "the English Vandyke;" and three pictures by Ruysdael, one of which "The Pool" (64) illustrates the painter's tendency to melancholy in rather a novel subject, are all commended to the visitor's attention.

The following noblemen and gentlemen have consented to act as judges to select paintings for the International Exhibition of 1871:—Viscount Bury, M.P.; Lord Elcho, M.P.; Sir Coutts Lindsay, Bart.; Alfred Elmore, Esq., B.A. (representing the Royal Academy); Alfred Clint, Esq. (representing the Society of British Artists); Alfred Hunt, Esq. (representing the Society of Painters in Water Colours); Henry Warren, Esq. (representing the Institute of Painters in Water Colours); F. Dillon, Esq., and H. S. Marks, Esq.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE EARL OF AYLESFORD.

The Right Hon. Henenge Finch, sixth Earl of Aylesford, and Baron of Guernsey, Major of the Warwickshire Yeomanry Cavalry, died at his town house, in Grosvenor-street, on the 10th inst. His Lordship was born Dec. 24, 1824, the elder son of Henenge, fifth Earl of Aylesford, by Augusta Sophia, his wife, fourth daughter of George, second Earl of Warwick, and was fifth in descent from the celebrated lawyer, the Hon. Henenge Finch (second son of Henenge, first Earl of Nottingham), who was appointed Solicitor-General in 1678, was subsequently one of the leading counsel for the seven Bishops, and attained the peerage in 1703. The nobleman whose death we record was educated at Eton, and Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated in 1845. He was a considerable landed proprietor in the county of Warwick, and, previously to his succession to the Peerage, Jan. 3, 1859, represented South Warwickshire. His Lordship married, May 7, 1846, Jane Wightwick, only child and heiress of John Wightwick Knightley, Esq., of Offchurch, Bury, near Leamington, by whom he leaves, with junior issue, Henenge, Lord Guernsey, now seventh Earl of Aylesford, born Feb. 21, 1849, and married, only two days before his father's death, to Edith, third daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Peers Williams, of Temple House, Bucks.

SIR H. O. R. CHAMBERLAIN, BART.

Sir Henry Orlando Robert Chamberlain, Bart., died at Bruges, on the 30th ult. He was born Dec. 15, 1828, the elder son of Sir Henry Chamberlain, second Baronet, by Harriet, his wife, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel R. Mullen, 1st Foot; and was grandson of Sir Henry Chamberlain, Consul-General and Chargé-d'Affaires in Brazil, who was created a Baronet Feb. 22, 1828. Sir Henry, whose death we record, was a Captain in the Lanarkshire Militia, and was formerly a Captain in the 23rd (Royal Welsh) Fusiliers, from which regiment he retired in 1853. He was one of the Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms from 1857 to 1860, and became Adjutant of the 12th Surrey Rifle Volunteers in 1861. Sir Henry succeeded his father, as third Baronet, in 1843. He married, Feb. 3, 1857, Marion, daughter of John Wilson, Esq., of Dundee, Lanarkshire, and leaves, besides twin sons, born May 29, 1863, and two daughters, a son and successor, now Sir Henry Hamilton Erroll Chamberlain, fourth Baronet, who was born Nov. 22, 1857.

THE DEAN OF CANTERBURY.

The Very Rev. Henry Alford, D.D., Dean of Canterbury, died on the 12th inst., after a brief illness. This distinguished critic, poet, and divine was born in London, in 1810, the son of respectable parents. His early education he received at Ilminster Grammar School, and its completion at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he gained a scholarship and took his B.A. and M.A. degrees. In 1834 he was elected a Fellow of his college, and in the following year appointed Vicar of Wymeswold, Leicestershire. In 1841 he preached the Hulsean Lectures at Cambridge, and became Examiner of Logic and Moral Philosophy in the University of London. In 1853 he was appointed Incumbent of Quebec-street Chapel, where he gained high reputation by his eloquent preaching; and in 1857 was recommended by Lord Palmerston for the Deanery of Canterbury. Dean Alford's literary efforts date from the time of his University career. In 1831 he published at Cambridge his first volume, "Poems, and Poetical Fragments;" in 1835 "The School of the Heart, and other Poems," in two volumes; and, in 1841, "Chapters on the Poets of Greece." In 1841 he also produced the first part of a very important and highly esteemed work—his edition of the Greek Testament, the compilation of which occupied him nearly twenty years. Of late years he contributed articles on religious and literary topics to the *Contemporary Review*, *Good Words*, and other periodicals, and took part in controversies with respect to various points in English grammar. The Dean's little book on New Testament synonyms is a collection of gems of infinite value to the Christian student.

MR. JOHN ABEL SMITH.

John Abel Smith, Esq., M.A., J.P., late M.P. for Chichester, died, on the 7th inst., at Kippington, near Sevenoaks, Kent. The lamented gentleman, distinguished alike for the benevolence of his nature and the liberality of his political principles, was the head of the great banking firm of Smith, Payne, and Co. He was born in 1801, the eldest son of John Smith, Esq., of Blendon Hall, Kent, a banker in London, and M.P. for Bucks, and was nephew of Robert, first Lord Carrington. He married, in 1827, Anne, eldest daughter of Sir Samuel Clarke-Jervoise, Bart., and widow of Ralph William Grey, Esq., of Backworth, Northumberland, by whom he leaves Jervoise Smith, Esq., late M.P. for Falmouth, and other issue. Mr. John Abel Smith was educated at Christ College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1824. In 1830 he entered the House of Commons as member for Midhurst, and sat subsequently for Chichester, from 1831 to 1859, and again from 1863 to 1868. A staunch and consistent Liberal, he took an eager part in the great Reform legislation of 1832, and was one of the chief advocates for the admission of Jews into Parliament.

MR. LONG OF PRESRAW.

Walter Long, Esq., of Presraw, Hants, J.P. and D.L., died, on the 5th inst., at his seat near Bishops-Waltham. He was born, Nov. 24, 1788, the only son of John Long, Esq., of Presraw, by Ellen, his wife, daughter and heiress of Robert Hippisley Trenchard, Esq., of Stanton Fitzwarren, Wilts, and relict of John Ashfordby, Esq., of Cheshunt. The family from which he descended was a younger branch of the Longs of Little Cheverell, Wilts, now represented by Richard Penruddocke Long, Esq., of Rood Ashton. Mr. Long of Presraw completed his education at Oriel College, Oxford, where he graduated in 1809, and proceeded M.A. in 1812. He married, Feb. 12, 1810, Lady Mary Carnegie, daughter of William, seventh Earl of Northesk, G.C.B., and leaves, with several daughters, four sons—Walter Jervis, of Belmore, Hants; William, M.A., of Bath; John, of Walberton, Sussex; and George.

CHESS.

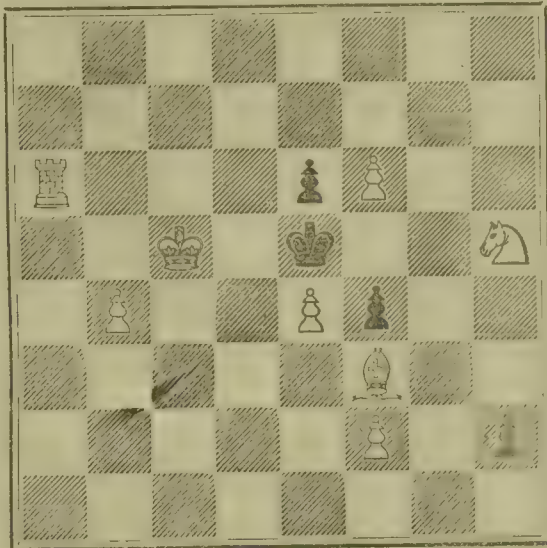
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ORIENTAL.—Candidates for admission to the St. George's Chess Club should apply to the Honorary Secretary, 21, King-street, St. James's-street.
M.P., REV. H. T., and Others.—We purpose giving another, and, as it appears to us, a more interesting example of the "Knight's Tour" than the last, either next week or the week after next.
J. A. W. HUNTER.—It shall be examined.
X. Y. Z.—All contributions intended for insertion must be accompanied by the sender's name and address.
ALPHONS BECK.—It is correct and clever, and shall appear very shortly.
D. NOYES.—Your problem admits of an easy second solution by 1. P to K 4th, &c.
A. DEXTER.—No. 14, you have overlooked the solution by 1. P to K 4th; 2. B to K 3rd; 3. B to K 6th, and mate next move.
I. PHENIX.—We fail entirely to make out to what Problems of yours the emendations just received bear reference. Why do you not adopt the course, so often recommended by us, of numbering the problems sent consecutively?
CAVALIER.—We are not aware that any definite arrangements have been made. All we hear is that some amateurs of influence have offered to revive the *Chess World* magazine, or to establish another of the same character, provided they receive the names of 200 subscribers to start with. If this be true, we can hardly doubt this small number of supporters will be speedily forthcoming. It is a serious reproach to the chess spirit of England that, while Germany has two excellent magazines devoted to the promotion of the game, this country should have none, or such only as, from their detestable personalities, require a man to fumigate his room after reading them. If the project takes root it shall receive our cordial support.
CEIPUS.—Yes; you have been anticipated by many. Collins, as far back as 1773, in his "Tour of the Knight," devised a system in which the board was divided into quadrats. This was improved by Von Kempelen, in 1783, and was developed independently by Dr. Roget, in 1840. Similar systems have been given by Warnsdorff, Ciccolini Perengli, Dredé, Von der Laza, C. F. de Jaenish, Haldeman, and others.
FABRICE, Dieppe.—(The signature is unrecognizable.) Your Problems are correct, but much too easy.
I. PHENIX.—The Problem in three moves has been marked for insertion.
W. T. PIERCE.—Too many moves for a newspaper. You should reserve such Problems for a problem tourney.
THE CORRECT SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1401 has been received, since our last list, from A. K., Laura, I. P. D., Sawrey, B. G. G., Tiburina, Mentor, Harry, G. D., W. B. S., Charley, Finis, Vanstuart, Pioneer, Try-gain, Rory O'More Saunty, A. Gogorza, Fabrice, of Dieppe, Baz, A. Wood, the International Chess Club in Nyon, and W. W. Marshall.
THE RIGHT SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1402 has been received from H. B., Rat of Antwerp, Clivis, D. C., M. P., Mercury, of Southampton; R. A., Charley, Medicus, Phillis, Newdegate, Victory, J. M. C., Laura, Box and Cox, W. B. E., Keno, Manfred and Beau Friday, Peterkin, Miss Bailey, Ida, Pip, W. E., Bexley, S. B. D., Quiferon, Bladad, R. T., Samivel, Waltonian, A. W. J., Konrad, B. B. L., Nemo, Precis, Joey, I. N. Keynes, John Greene, R. D. T., and W. W. Marshall.
THE TRUE SOLUTION OF THE TOUR OF THE KNIGHT has been received since the publication of our former list from G. B. Witham, IL Stables, I. H. Wetherill, G. Shanks, G. J. and A. J., D. M. Wakefield, X. Y. Z., James Montagu, P. D. G., Charles Gapo, R. S. W., T. D. Boyton, H. Grassendale, L. W. H., G. St. B. Browne, I. R. Brock, I. Endebl, L. M. Sawston, Qdipus, T. B. Saunders, E. A. C. Stockwell, International Club, Nyon, Harriet Fry, R. Dauding, I. and E. H., I. B., G. P., Richard Ellis, C. I. U., Richard Philip Percy, F. Williams, Townshend, M. Hall, E. A. Tiffen, I. A. Smith, Highworth, P. S. Prove, W. P. M., I. Lindum, I. W. S. Tucker, G. R. L. Martini, F. H., of Anvers; W. D. of Cork; E. A. Volney, A. and H. C. F. J., Cwm-Ithig, L. E. Tiffin, Ellen Thompson, M. C. Sandwich, P. Pottswald, T. P. Aikley, Lambert T. Rees, A. G. H., Rebecca Frances Lewis, T. A. R., H. E. Tatham, Lowfields, G. Gatehouse, N. P. T., Silvermere, Miss Beest, C. F. D., Billy, Clarissa, I. Hawley, F. C. M. D. Thomas, Johannes, Dromio; Captain M., of Dublin; W. P. W. Newington, H. L., IL H. Quare, Rev. J. Burton; and I. C. of Glasgow.

PROBLEM No. 1404.

By Mr. I. PHENIX.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and give mate in four moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1401.
WHITE. 1. B to K 4th
2. Q takes P
3. Q mates.
BLACK. B takes B, or *
K takes either Kt
If K takes B, White replies with 2. Q takes B (both), and mates next.
2. K to K B 4th
3. B takes P, Mate.
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1402.
WHITE. 1. Kt to K 17th (ch)
2. Kt to K 6th
BLACK. K to K 4th*
K takes Kt
3. Kt to K B 4th (ch)
K to K 5th
4. Kt to K 5th. Mate.
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1403.
WHITE. 1. B to K Kt 5th (ch)
2. R to K R 3rd
BLACK. P takes B
Any move.
WHITE. 3. R to K R 7th
4. R or Kt gives mate.
Any move.

SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM OF THE KNIGHT'S TOUR.
(See the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of Dec. 31, 1870.)

for	to	king	good	say	luck	loy	eth
11	35	22	37	12	51	18	35
and	moth	a	soon	dis	our	to	bad
23	3	13	54	17	36	11	30
place	ry	church	bis	force	is	bat	31
36	15	40	21	52	9	24	19
or	queen	him	wight	ho	to	may	truth
39	24	33	16	33	29	43	10
man	bis	and	and	chess	es	knight	op's
2	37	3	41	8	61	22	47
a	sneer	the	and	un	lawn	of	tates
25	42	1	69	29	43	7	12
cas	that	at	less	pawn	no	bish	1st
58	3	44	27	64	5	43	31
eth	faith	ties	bath	the	39	in	love
43	26	59	4	45	39	63	6

The man that hath no love of chess
Is, truth to say, a sorry wight,
Disloyal to his king and queen,
A faithless and ungallant knight;
He hateth our good mother church,
And sneereth at the bishop's lawn;
May bad luck force him soon to place
His castles and estates in pawn!

MATCH AT THE ST. GEORGE'S CHESS CLUB.—The contest between Messrs. Rosenthal and Wisker terminated, on Saturday evening last, in favour of Mr. Rosenthal: the score at the conclusion showing Mr. Rosenthal to have won three games his opponent two, and four having been drawn.

H.M.S. HOTSPUR.

The design of H.M.S. Hotspur, the new armour-clad screw steam-ram, built by Messrs. Robert Napier and Son, at the Govan shipyard on the Clyde, has proved very successful. The dimensions of the Hotspur are as follow:—Length between the perpendiculars, 235 ft.; breadth, 60 ft. depth in hold, 20 ft. 1 in.; burden, 2637 18-94 tons builders' measurement; and 600-horse power. This war-ship is constructed on a principle which is entirely new in this country, but which was adopted some time ago in connection with the navy of France. Its chief features are the formation of a fixed tower or turret, the breastwork of which is 8 in. thick, and an immense ram forward. The diameter of the turret, which is pear-shaped, is 31 ft. 6 in., and 35 ft. 9 in. from the aft to the fore side. This stationary turret is armed with a 30-ton gun, carrying 600lb. of shot. It is worked on a revolving turn-table, the diameter of which is 26 ft.; from the two front portholes the gun has a training of 69 deg., and at the side portholes a training of 4½ deg. aft, and 26 deg. forward, so that it is able to fire right forward, and almost, but not quite, right aft. The gun can be elevated 12½ deg. and depressed 7 deg., the recoil being 6 ft. 3 in. The ram projects about 9 ft. below water, and is brought up to a sharp point at a depth of about 8 ft. below the water-line. There are three decks, the middle one being plated with two thicknesses of iron tapered forward and aft. The engines, which have been made and fitted by Messrs. Napier, are of the direct-acting horizontal description, having two piston-roads to each cylinder, and are fitted with surface-condensers and all the most recent improvements. The boilers, of which there are four, are of the ordinary tubular type, with five furnaces each. The propellers are 14 ft. in diameter, on Griffiths's plan, with moveable blades. In all, six armour-clads have been built by Messrs. Napier for the British Navy. In 1856 they set afloat the Erebus, in 1861 the Black Prince, in 1862 the Hector, in 1869 the Audacious and Invincible, and in 1870 the Hotspur.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will of the Right Hon. Beaumont Baron Hotham, of South Dalton Hall, Beverley, Yorkshire, was proved in London, on the 10th inst., under £500,000 personalty, by his Lordship's cousin, Francis Hart Dyke, Esq., her Majesty's Procurator General, the sole executor, to whom his Lordship has left a legacy of £10,000 (free). His Lordship was a Peer of Ireland and an English Baronet, son of Beaumont Hotham, Esq., and Philadelphia, eldest daughter of Sir John Dixon Dyke, Bart. He was a General in her Majesty's Army, and had served with distinction in the Peninsula and at Waterloo. He was Deputy Lieutenant for the East Riding of Yorkshire, and held a seat in Parliament from 1832 to 1868. He died, a bachelor, at the age of seventy-six, and is succeeded by his nephew, now the Right Hon. Charles, fourth Baron Hotham, son of his Lordship's late brother, Rear-Admiral Hotham. The first Baron was the distinguished Admiral created Lord Hotham in 1797. The will bears date June 25, 1868, with three codicils. The trustees, in conjunction with Mr. Dyke, are his Lordship's cousins, the Rev. Henry John Hotham, M.A., and the Rev. Frederick Harry Hotham, M.A. His Lordship directs that all his estates in Yorkshire, as well as the settled estates, shall be held and enjoyed as one property by the person holding the title and barony of Hotham, granted to his great-uncle, William, first Lord Hotham, by letters patent; and that there should be set apart an accumulative fund, extending over a period of twenty-one years, to be produced from the interest of moneys, securities, and arrears of rent, carrying compound interest, which shall be laid out in the purchase of land at the discretion of the trustees. His Lordship has devised his estates in Surrey to his cousin, the said Rev. Henry J. Hotham, and to his issue male, and has left legacies to relatives and friends; also annuities to a son and daughter of his late brother, George Frederick Hotham. To his cousin, the said Rev. Frederick H. Hotham, £7000; and £1000 to each of his friends under-named—viz., Admiral the Hon. A. Duncombe, Admiral W. Hotham, Rear-Admiral W. Edmonstone, James Chapman, Esq., of St. Paul's, Cray-hill; James Hall, Esq., of Scarborough; the Rev. E. R. Benyon, M.A., and his Lordship's two chaplains, the Revs. T. F. Simmons and R. F. Lefevre Blunt. Also legacies to a few other friends and to his servants. To the Hull Infirmary, £1000. All legacies to be free of duty. By a codicil, dated July 26, 1870, his Lordship directs that in case the church then being built at Beswick shall not be completely finished at the time of his decease, all expenses attending the completion, as well as the consecration, shall be defrayed out of his personal estate.

The will of the Hon. Charles Bertie-Percy, formerly M.P. for Newport—son of the first Earl of Beverley—was proved at Birmingham under £100,000 personalty. He was Deputy Lieutenant for the county of Warwick, and assumed the name of Bertie soon after his marriage with Anne Caroline, grand-daughter and heir of B. Bertie Greathead, Esq.

The will of S. Blair, Esq., which was proved at Manchester under £160,000 personalty, contains a bequest of £20,000 to establish an hospital.

The will of Miss Louisa Elizabeth Meynell-Ingram, of Hoar Cross, near Rugeley, Staffordshire, and of 66, Hill-street, Berkeley-square, dated Feb. 10, 1868, was proved in London, on the 7th inst., under £100,000. The testatrix has left the following charitable bequests—namely:—To the National Life-Boat Institution and the Governness' Institution, each £300; to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Pall-mall) and the Leeds branch of ditto, the Cancer Hospital, and the Derby Infirmary, each £100.

About 200 of the Devon estate tenantry assembled, on Monday, at Newton Abbott, and presented the Earl of Devon with his portrait in oil.

An explosion occurred yesterday week at the colliery of the Crewe Coal and Iron Company, at Leycett, near Newcastle-under-Lyme. Four men were killed, one died shortly afterwards, and fifteen were injured. A shot fired in the ten-feet seam, contrary to orders, was the cause of the explosion.

A public meeting in favour of removing the electoral disabilities of women was held, on Thursday week, in the Music-Hall, Edinburgh. Mr. Stuart Mill moved the principal resolution, which affirmed that, the ownership or occupation of land or houses being the basis of representation, it was unjust in principle to make sex a ground of disqualification for the franchise, and that the recent school board elections in England had proved not only that women were desirous of exercising that right, but that they could do so without the slightest inconvenience. Having been seconded by Mr. Miller, M.P., the resolution was unanimously adopted. A second resolution, proposed by Professor Masson, pledged the meeting to request Mr. Jacob Bright to reintroduce his bill in the ensuing Session, and to petition in favour of the measure at the proper time. This was seconded by Bailie Lewis, and on a show of hands, was carried by a large majority.



OUR IRONCLAD FLEET : H.M.S. HOTSPUR.



THE HALF HOUR BEFORE DINNER.

MUSIC.

The production of the new opera, "Ali Baba," originally announced for Saturday last, was postponed to Tuesday, when it was brought out at the Lyceum Theatre by the Italian Opera buffa company, whose previous performances have already been chronicled by us.

The well-known story of the forty thieves has been treated with a freedom that seems to be considered the peculiar privilege of the constructors of opera books. Signor Taddei, the author of this Italian version, has made Ali Baba a merchant who has grown rich by defrauding the custom-house; the chief officer of which, Aboul Hassan, is in love with Delia, the daughter of the former, and is favoured by the father on account of his wealth and his power to screen the merchant from the consequences of his delinquencies. The discovery of the robbers' cavern and the secret of the password thereto is transferred in the opera to Nadir, the poor but accepted lover of Delia. The riches thus suddenly acquired render him more acceptable to the father, who, however, gives way to the threats of the powerful rival. Nadir's disclosure of his secret leads to Ali Baba's visit to the cavern, where he finds his daughter, who has been captured by the thieves. Both are allowed to depart home, together with the robber chief and his lieutenant, on promise of a ransom. The agency of Morgiana is retained in the opera, but the dénouement is here brought about by her discovery of the whole band of thieves concealed in casks of coffee instead of the memorable jars of the story. The condemnation of the casks, to be burnt as confiscated goods, brings the thieves out;—mutual love triumphs, and vice is punished. These are the altered materials out of which four acts are constructed, and in which it is difficult to discover sufficient humour to justify the term comic which is applied to the opera.

Signor Bottesini's music, composed expressly for this company, is generally in the light and vivacious Italian style, with a strong infusion of dance rhythm. It nowhere exhibits any claim to be judged by a high standard, but is frequently characterised by much impulsive gaiety and some occasional touches of grace, with a few instances of dramatic effect and power of combination. He writes well for voices, and his instrumentation is piquant and brilliant, if not new or elaborate. The best display of dramatic and constructive power is in the finale to the second act, an elaborate and well-sustained movement, which produced considerable effect, and was encored in the commencing portion. Other pieces that met with much applause were Delia's romance, "Non è il poter," her two airs, "O Nadir" and "In questa grotta;" and her waltz rondo, near the close of the opera; Nadir's romance, "Lunge da te," and his ballata, "Io straniero," the last verse of which was repeated. Ali Baba's air in the cavern, and some spirited choral music for the robbers, were also very successful; as were some of the concerted pieces for solo voices, particularly a capital trio for the three principals, "Esultiamo," which was given again in answer to enthusiastic applause that was bestowed to a similar extent on nearly every movement in the opera. Many of these will doubtless be in demand from the publishers, Messrs. Hutchings and Romer, of Conduit-street. Mdlle. Calisto, as Delia, sang with great effect—with much refinement in the tenderer love passages, and with considerable brilliancy in the finale to the second act. Signor Piccioli, who made his first appearance as Nadir, displayed a tenor voice of agreeable quality, with a good command of the higher chest notes and much cultivation of style. His phrasing is especially commendable, and his success, particularly in the ballata already referred to, was unequivocal. That very clever buffo-singer Signor Borella gave a good grotesque version of the character of Ali Baba, and sang, as well as acted, with great spirit and humour. Signor Rocca was also highly effective as Aboul Hassan; and the subordinate parts of Morgiana, Orsoccane, and Calaf were efficiently filled by Mdlle. Faullo and Signori Torelli and Fallar. The opera is extremely well placed on the stage, with capital scenery and dresses, and it was received throughout with the strongest demonstrations of approval, the composer (who conducted) having been enthusiastically called for at the end of each act. An agreeable innovation in "Ali Baba" is the substitution of spoken dialogue instead of the monotonous recitative conventionally associated with Italian opera.

At this week's Monday Popular Concert—the second of the year—Madame Scharvady was again the solo pianist, as on the preceding occasion. Her performances were in Mendelssohn's third pianoforte quartet; a sonata of Mozart, with violin; and the solo variations of Robert Schumann, entitled "Etudes Symphoniques." The piece first named is one of the most remarkable of the many juvenile productions of a composer whose precocity of genius was even more extraordinary than that of Mozart. The three first works of Mendelssohn were all quartets for the pianoforte and stringed instruments—No. 3, in B minor—which displays a marvellous advance in originality of style and sustained power, having been written when he was only fifteen. Schumann's variations are worthy of comparison with those of Beethoven on an original theme in C minor and the "Variations Sérieuses" of Mendelssohn—all being remarkable instances of the power of genius to render a form usually allied with triviality a medium for the expression of grand and even sublime thought. Madame Scharvady's powers and acquirements as a pianist were commented on last week, and it is needless now to say how the works here specified were played. Her reception was again of the most favourable kind. Madame Norman-Neruda reappeared as leading violinist, and Herr Stockhausen contributed lieder by Schubert and Brahms; Haydn's quartet in D minor having closed the concert.

Three of the new series of six "London Ballad Concerts" have now taken place. The first has already been noticed by us. At the second—given last week—Mr. Sims Reeves was prevented from appearing by illness, but the attractions were, nevertheless, sufficient to crowd the room; several other eminent vocalists having contributed to an extensive and varied programme. At this week's concert Mr. Reeves was present, and sang three songs—Mr. Sullivan's "The snow lies white;" a new song by Louisa Gray, "The Farewell Letter;" and Bishop's well-known "Pilgrim of Love"—all, it need scarcely be said, with great effect; and the last with the usual encore. Other songs and ballads, old and new, were contributed by Misses E. Wynne and Elton, Mesdames Sherrington and Patey, Mrs. Weldon, and Mr. Santley; several having been encored. Mr. Brinley Richards was the solo pianist, and the programme included, as usual, part-songs under the direction of Mr. Fielding.

The new series of Oratorio Concerts is announced to commence on Feb. 15, when Bach's "Passion-Music" will be repeated. During the season Beethoven's mass in D and choral symphony are to be performed, besides Mr. Benedict's oratorio "St. Peter" and Dr. Hiller's cantata "Nala and Damayanti"—both produced at last year's Birmingham Festival—a new work by M. Gounod, and one by Mr. Joseph

Barnby, conductor of the concerts and director of the excellent choir engaged at them.

The first of this year's performances of the Sacred Harmonic Society was announced for last (Friday) night, when "Elijah" was promised.

THE THEATRES.

Such is the number of modern theatres, that it becomes expedient for certain of them, even between the usual points of time formerly set apart for the business of production, to introduce their respective novelties. The houses adopting this policy are certainly under exceptional conditions, and rather avoid the regular periods to escape a competition that might then be too strong for them. The Globe, whose days under Miss Alleyne's management are numbered, has produced a comedieta, entitled "The Rights of Woman," by Miss Schiff, who has already shown some dramatic aptitude. Neither the subject nor the treatment of her little drama is novel; and Miss Schiff, notwithstanding the title of her piece, appears to be no convert to new opinions. She is conservative and conventional to a degree, and makes sport of the emancipation and independence of woman. The heroine, Miss Oelia Steadfast, indeed, forms a society for reducing man to an inferior position and securing the ascendancy of woman; but the plans all fail. All the members trespass against the rules, suffer the intrusion of suitors, who eventually carry the day. The moral of the catastrophe is, that the existing relations of the sexes are better than any of the supposed improvements recommended by social agitators. The audience were pleased with the trifle, which was respectably acted.

"The Ticket-of-Leave Man" has been revived at the Holborn by Mr. Sefton Parry, and proved to be yet attractive. Much alteration has not been made in the cast—Mr. Henry Neville appearing in his original character, Robert Brierly, Miss Hughes as Emily St. Evremont, Mrs. Stephens as Mrs. Willoughby, and Miss Lydia Foote as May Edwards. Mr. Sefton Parry himself appears as the detective Hawkins, Mr. Parselle as Dalton, and Mr. Holston as Melter Moss. The other characters were respectably sustained.

A superior class of piece has been produced at the Royalty under the direction of Miss Hodson. It is entitled "Dora's Device," and is written by Mr. B. Reece. The author's merits have been powerfully supplemented by the performers, who most carefully, one and all, rendered justice to their parts. The "manners" are Belgravian, but natural as well as polished, which gives a charm even to fashionable life. Dora (Miss Hodson) is intended by her mamma for a captain of apparent wealth, but who really seeks her for the sake of her fortune. Dora contrives that she shall be personated by her governess (Miss Sanger), and the deceived adventurer falls into the trap. Mamma discharges the governess, who is sought out in her poverty by Dora, and, ultimately discovered to be an heiress, is married to her brother. Both Miss Hodson and Miss Sanger were charming in their respective parts; and, slight as are the materials of the drama, they sufficed to interest the audience, which gave a verdict in favour of the new play.

A new piece by Mr. Robertson has been long expected at the St. James's, under the brief and startling title of "War." On Monday the piece was produced, but not, we regret to add, with success. It was supposed that it would have something to do, incidentally or referentially, with the present Continental conflict, but nobody could have anticipated that it would be connected with the affair of Sedan. Delicacy should have warned the author off that dangerous ground. The audience began from that moment to express dissatisfaction, which grew and increased as the drama proceeded, and culminated in the end in a decided condemnation. The connection with the war is, after all, very slight. Oscar de Rochevaunes (Mr. Mervin), a French officer, is recalled to his duties by the declaration of hostilities just before his marriage with a German lady, Lotte Hartmann (Miss Fanny Brough). He is accompanied by his father, a Colonel, and both are wounded, and are found on the field, near a ruined church, by the young lady and her father, who wear the red cross, and administer comfort to the wounded. Oscar is supposed to be in a dangerous condition, yet wishes that his marriage with Lotte should take place in the neighbouring church. He is, nevertheless, left on the field, and his wife returns to Sevenoaks with her parents, and ere long has reason to think herself a widow. In the last act this supposition is proved to be erroneous, and the good tidings are broken to the different members of the family in a manner so elaborate as to prove tedious. M. Nertaun, a French actor, supported the part of the Colonel; and Mr. Lionel Brough had a slight part, named Captain Sound, R.N., which furnished but small opportunity for effective acting.

Mr. Paul Bedford, the well-known comedian, died, on Wednesday week, at Linsey-place, Chelsea. He was born at Bath, in 1798, and made his first appearance in London, at Drury-lane Theatre, Nov. 2, 1824.

The *Medical Press* warns ladies against green gloves. It mentions a case in which skin-poisoning resulted from their use, an arsenical salt being employed to produce the colour.

The collections made at churches and chapels in Liverpool and the neighbourhood on "hospital Sunday" for the local medical charities amounted in the aggregate to about £4000.

Mr. Chichester Fortescue has appointed as his private secretary Mr. Henry Calcraft, who filled the same office under Mr. Milner Gibson, the Duke of Richmond, and Mr. Bright.

From April 1 to Jan. 14 the national revenue amounted to £48,601,929, as compared with £53,321,143 in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure has been £55,890,008. The balance in the Bank of England is £626,714.

The tenants on Lord Derby's Tipperary estates, having heard that the noble Earl had resolved to dispose of his property in that county, have adopted a memorial to his Lordship expressing regret at the intelligence and praying him not to carry out his intention.

A heavy southerly gale, which proved very disastrous to some ships and their crews, was experienced on Sunday and Monday throughout the British Isles. It is, however, satisfactory to know that the boats of the National Life-Boat Institution were instrumental in saving many lives.

Mr. Davison, the new Judge Advocate-General, who succeeded Sir Colman O'Loughlin, was re-elected, last Saturday, for Durham without opposition. In the course of his speech he defended the foreign policy of his Government, and denounced armed intervention, but insisted on the observance of a dignified neutrality. The hon. gentleman said he believed the feeling of the country was in favour of peace. Sir H. Williamson, M.P., and Mr. Dodds, M.P., also addressed the assembly.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The departure of the frost will enable the crack three-year-olds to get into work again, and, after their long rest, they will have to be hustled along if they are to be got fit for any early engagements. King of the Forest will be an especial sufferer by the enforced idleness, as he is a very gross colt, requiring an immense amount of galloping to keep down "this too solid flesh;" and Robert Peck, his new trainer, will have all his work to do to bring him to the Two Thousand post in good condition. Very favourable reports are rife as to the great improvement he has made during the winter, and he is now firmly established as first favourite for the Derby. Bothwell is somewhat under a cloud for that race, which is not surprising, as he only won one of his four races, and then had great difficulty in defeating the moderate Whaddon. There can be little doubt, however, that he is capable of better things than these; but he is emphatically "a horse of excuses." There is no other change in the Derby betting, except the advance of The Pearl, who is reported to have wintered unusually well; and, as she won four out of her five engagements, and only suffered defeat from Belle of Holywell, to whom she was conceding 8 lb., there is in all probability a brilliant three-year-old career before her.

Coursing news is very scarce, and, as in the case of the horses, it will be very difficult to get the greyhounds into good condition by the Waterloo meeting. Lord Lurgan stands at the head of the quotations, though there seems to be some doubt as to what will run in his nomination. Master McGrath is reported to be going quite in his old form; but it is difficult to believe in a fourth-season dog, and report speaks very highly of an own sister to the wonderful black. Pretender will probably represent Mr. Punchard, and this nomination has been in great force for the last few days; while the nominations of Lord Haddington and Messrs. Gibson and Clark are in almost as much favour as that of Lord Lurgan.

The pair-oared race between Renforth and Kelley and Taylor and Winship was the great event of this week, and created an unusual amount of excitement. The union of the two great scullers and old rivals, and the amount of private feeling consequent on the split in the celebrated Tyne four, combined to render the race exceptionally interesting, and the betting was very heavy. When the match was made it was considered a good thing for the champion and his partner; but after they had rowed together a few times, and it was seen that, though they got great way on their boat, they did not possess anything like the beautiful precision and machine-like action of the other pair, the odds gradually fell, till just before the start 11 to 8 was taken freely. First impressions, however, proved correct; for a more ridiculous burlesque of a race was never seen on the Tyne. Taylor won the choice of sides, and a very level start was effected; but, after rowing about a hundred yards, Renforth and Kelley began to draw away from their opponents, and, when a quarter of a mile had been traversed, rowed across and took their water. After the champion and ex-champion had gone a little over a mile, they held a lead of about five lengths, and it was fortunate that they did so; for some floating ice, which lay right in their course, enabled the other men to get nearly up again, and, had the boats been closer together, a foul must have occurred. As it was, the incident only served to show the immense superiority of the coalition pair; for on getting clear they at once dashed away, and in a few strokes were as far in advance as before, and, in spite of some bad steering, came in the easiest of winners by about ten lengths. The result was a great surprise, as Taylor has a high reputation for judgment, and it was expected that at least a very clever struggle would take place. Renforth must be especially gratified by the victory, as his reputation as an oarsman has been much depreciated of late, and he has taken a great revenge on his detractors; while there can be little doubt now that he will be intrusted with the formation of a crew for a second visit to America. Too much praise cannot be given to Harry Kelley, who, though not possessing the wonderful strength of his distinguished colleague, rowed in better form, and is apparently as fine an oarsman as he was ten years ago.

The enormous break of 752 made by Cook on Saturday last has been the great topic on conversation among billiard-players. He was playing with the champion, and the game stood—Cook, 350; Bennett, 218. The former then played, and, having made 45 points by all-round play, he got up to the top of the table and accomplished 37 spot hazards. Then came 40 by all-round play, followed by 85 more "spots," when Cook lost position, and did not regain it till he had made 9 points. His score was then 808; and he finished the game by holing the red sixty-four times more. Continuing the break by general request, he succeeded in scoring 34 additional red hazards—eventually breaking down owing to a miss-cue. This marvellous break was composed of 92 made all round the table, and 220 spot hazards, of which 98 were consecutive. Nor have other players been idle, for, though Bennett was again defeated by Cook on the same evening, yet he put together breaks of 129, 156, and 205; while his brother John, when playing against an amateur at St. James's Hall, won three games of 100 up in three breaks, which occupied just a quarter of an hour. John Roberts, jun., will make an attempt to regain the championship on the 30th inst.; but, with equal luck, we fancy Joseph Bennett will again prove too much for him.

Mr. Stansfeld, who was accompanied by Mr. Mundella, presented the prizes to the members of the Halifax Mechanics' Institute on Tuesday evening; and, at the conclusion of the ceremony, addressed the assemblage, his theme being the Education Bill of last Session and its probable effects.

A conference of local secretaries and others interested in the higher education of women, in connection with the Cambridge University examinations for women, was held at Leeds, on the 12th and 13th inst. The secretaries and others from Birmingham, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Rugby, and York were present, and also the secretary to the syndicate for conducting the Cambridge local and women's examinations. Communications were sent from other centres, whose representatives were not able to attend. Various matters of detail connected with the women's examinations were discussed, and steps were taken for the formation of libraries of books recommended by the syndicate for the use of candidates. It is hoped that lectures will be established at different centres for systematic instruction in some of the subjects of examination. It is expected that the examinations for women in July next will be held at Cheltenham, Leeds or Manchester, Liverpool, London, and Rugby. In 1869 they were held at London and Manchester; and last year at Leeds, London, and Rugby. The syndicate has made the following regulations for the examination in July, 1871. With a view to meeting the actual expenses of examination of candidates who are engaged in tuition as a profession, or are preparing for that profession, the sum of £5 each shall be given to the five candidates fulfilling these conditions who are placed highest in order by the examiners.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

An Admiralty order has been issued imposing many restrictions upon the visits of foreigners to the Royal dockyards.

Sub-Lieutenant Scott, who was in charge of her Majesty's steam-vessel *Psyche* when she ran ashore off the east coast of Sicily, has been tried by court-martial and dismissed the service. Lieutenant Fellowes has been severely reprimanded.

Of the naval stewards recently arrested all have been released except those belonging to the *Agincourt*, the *Inconstant*, the *Boscawen*, and the *Achilles*. These men will shortly be tried at Portsmouth. The charges against them have not been made public, but they are accused of frauds in some shape.

The 35-ton gun was subjected to its first trial, a charge of 75 lb. of powder, yesterday week, at Woolwich, and the results were regarded as satisfactory. It throws a 700 lb. shot, and this missile is described as a cylinder about 1 ft. in diameter and 2½ ft. in length. On Monday it was tried, successfully, with a charge of 120 lb. of powder, the same as that which it will have to bear in actual service; and on Wednesday it was tried with a charge of 130 lb. of powder. The velocity of the shot was 1320 feet per second, precisely the same as that attained with the service charge of 120 lb.

"The Future Armament of our Field Artillery" was the subject of a discussion at the Royal Artillery Institution, Woolwich, on Tuesday evening, the attendance of officers being one of the largest seen this session, there being about 250 present, including many general officers of distinction. The subject was introduced by Lieutenant C. Jones, Royal Artillery, Captain Instructor at the Royal Gun Factories. He glanced briefly at the muzzle-loading v. breech-loading controversy, as having been practically decided in favour of the former, and next addressed himself to the question of metal. He was of opinion that a steel barrel strengthened with wrought-iron coils furnished the best construction yet discovered. These guns, of which they had constructed 4000 in the last twelve years, were almost as secure from bursting as bronze guns, there never having been an instance of one having burst from fair usage.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

Several volunteers in the South Middlesex were, last Saturday, summoned at the Hammersmith Police Court for non-payment of their subscriptions. The usual orders were made.

On Thursday week the prizes won in shooting competitions by members of the Tower Hamlets Brigade were presented by Miss Samuda at the Townhall, Shoreditch.

Between £1500 and £1600 has been received towards the £20,000 which is required to provide rifle-ranges, drill-grounds, head-quarters, and armouries for the five City volunteer regiments.

The annual distribution of prizes for shooting and marksmen's badges took place at the head-quarters of the 3rd Middlesex (Hampstead) on Monday night. The chair was occupied by Lieutenant Toller, and Mr. Joseph Hoare, J.P., distributed the prizes.

Sir William Mansfield, in distributing the prizes to the London Scottish, last Saturday, in Westminster Hall, spoke on the reorganisation of our military forces. He considers that the chief source of weakness is the want of co-operation between the respective bodies. He thinks that the Line should still be based on the voluntary principle, but that every able-bodied man should be liable to serve either in the militia or volunteer force.

The Council of the National Rifle Association on Wednesday issued their report for the past year. The total number of prizes given was 1053, of the value of £11,294 12s., being an increase of £555 on the previous year. The entries were 84,167, which is an increase of 7654 on the year 1869. The balance-sheet shows the total income to have been £22,455, while the expenditure amounted to £20,349. There was a balance of £900 last year, and out of the two balances £2500 has been expended in purchasing Reduced Three per Cents. This makes the total invested £10,570. Besides this, an investment has been made by the purchase of plant to the value of £1677, in which is included iron stables, offices, hydrants, extra water service, and gas-fittings. There is a slight decrease in the number of members.

WEEKLY RETURN OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The Registrar-General gives the following return of births and deaths in London and in nineteen other large towns of the United Kingdom during the week ending Jan. 14:—

In London the births of 2357 children—1204 boys and 1153 girls—were registered. The deaths registered were 1896. During the corresponding weeks of ten previous years the registered births averaged 2078 and the deaths 1702 per week; after making due allowance for increase of population, the average for the past week is estimated at 2286 births and 1872 deaths; the registered births, therefore, were 71, and the deaths 24, above the estimated average. The mortality was higher last week than it was in any week during the whole of 1870. The recent cold weather has had its natural effect in raising the mortality at advanced stages of life. Zymotic diseases caused 398 deaths, including 135 from smallpox, 27 from measles, 77 from scarlet fever, 9 from diphtheria, 15 from croup, 38 from whooping-cough, 10 from typhus, 17 from enteric (or typhoid) fever, 1 from relapsing fever, 10 from simple continued fever, 11 from erysipelas, and 17 from diarrhoea. Fifty-eight deaths resulted from violence; of these 48 were accidental, including 15 by fractures, 8 by burns or scalds, 4 by drowning, and 16 by suffocation. Six suicides were registered. Three fatal accidents caused by horses or vehicles in the streets were returned.

During the week 5050 births and 4413 deaths were registered in London and nineteen other large cities and towns of the United Kingdom; and the aggregate mortality of the week was in the ratio of 31 deaths annually to every 1000 of the present estimated population. The annual rates of mortality last week in the seventeen English cities and towns, stated in the order of their topographical arrangement, were as follow:—London, 30 per 1000; Portsmouth, 18; Norwich, 38; Bristol, 36; Wolverhampton, 28; Birmingham, 35; Leicester, 31; Nottingham, 28; Liverpool, 44; Manchester, 29; Salford, 32; Bradford, 28; Leeds, 30; Sheffield, 31; Hull, 24; Sunderland, 24; and Newcastle-on-Tyne, 23. The deaths from all causes in these seventeen towns were less by 184 than those returned in the previous week, there being a considerable decline in Liverpool and Manchester.

Mr. Herbert H. Murray, of her Majesty's Treasury, has been appointed to the post of Treasury Remembrancer and Assistant Paymaster in Ireland.

The debt owing by the county of Middlesex is now £585,615. The rental of the county, according to the revised basis of 1869, amounts to £13,851,972.

LAW AND POLICE.

The Spring Circuits of the Judges were fixed, on Thursday morning, as follow:—Home—The Lord Chief Justice of England (Sir A. J. E. Cockburn, Bart.) and Mr. Justice Hannen; Oxford—Lord Chief Justice Bovill and Mr. Justice Montague Smith; Norfolk—The Lord Chief Baron and Mr. Justice Blackburn; Northern—Mr. Baron Martin and Mr. Justice Willes; Western—Mr. Justice Byles and Mr. Baron Pigott; Midland—Mr. Justice Brett and Mr. Baron Cleasby; North Wales—Mr. Baron Bramwell; South Wales—Mr. Justice Mellor. Mr. Justice Lush remains in town.

Judgment has been given by the Master of the Rolls on the claim of M. Charles Lafitte, the well-known Paris banker and financial agent, as a creditor of the limited company which bore his name. His Lordship decided to reject the claim, without costs.

Vice-Chancellor Stuart has had before him the suit of the "Empire Assurance Corporation v. Leeke." The executors of the late Admiral Sir Henry Leeke, who formerly sat in Parliament for the borough of Dover, sought to have his name removed from the company's register of shareholders and list of contributors. It was shown that fifty shares had been allotted to Sir Henry, in order to qualify him as a director, and his name was published as chairman of the undertaking. The executors moved, on two grounds—that the Admiral never was a shareholder, and that, if so, his shares had been fully paid up. The Vice-Chancellor refused the motion, with costs.

There was before Vice-Chancellor Malins, last week, the case of the "Imperial Mercantile Credit Association v. Chapman and Others," in which a bill had been filed to compel the directors to restore to the shareholders upwards of £50,000, alleged to have been expended in rigging the market. A demurrer to the bill had been filed by Mr. Kelson, one of the directors, for whom it was contended that the board had full power to advance the amount in question, and that they acted to the best of their judgment for the interests of the company. His Honour held that the directors were not justified in the course they had pursued, and the demurrer was overruled.

Sir R. Phillimore gave judgment, on Tuesday, in the case of the *International*, which had been seized on the ground that she had on board a cable which was to be used in the military service of France. It was to be laid along the French coast between Bordeaux and Havre. He decided that the telegraph company had made out their claim to have the ship released, for although the cable might be used for military purposes, primarily its object was of a commercial character. At the same time he was of opinion that there was reasonable and proper cause for detaining the vessel and cargo, and he therefore made no order as to costs or damages.

The proceedings in the bankruptcy of the Earl of Winchelsea have been again adjourned, on the ground that no accounts have yet been filed. A first sitting was held on Thursday week, under an adjudication made against the Earl of Orkney. It was stated that the debts, irrespective of liabilities upon bills, did not exceed £500. Both noble Earls were in Court. A meeting was held yesterday week under the bankruptcy of Lord de Mauley, but as the statutory accounts had not been filed, another adjournment was ordered. The case of The O'Donoghue was again before the Court on Saturday, when it was stated that the creditors would accept a composition of 8s. in the pound. An adjournment of two months was granted to enable this arrangement to be carried out. Sir Minto Farquhar's bankruptcy was before Mr. Registrar Roche on Tuesday; but the hon. Baronet, through illness, was unable to attend the Court, and the proceedings were adjourned.

The Belfast Land Sessions opened, on Monday, before Mr. John Hastings Otway, Q.C., chairman of the county of Antrim, when the first case under the Ulster Tenant-Right custom was disposed of. The claimant was a widow named McKeer, residing at Ballycarry, in the county of Antrim, and the respondent was Joseph Bigger, of Belfast. His Worship granted £450 as compensation, the claimant to remain in possession of the farm till November, 1871.

Two actions for breach of promise of marriage were tried in London on Wednesday. In the Bail Court a verdict for £500 damages was returned, and in the Court of Exchequer a verdict was given for £200.

Mr. Strange, managing director of the Alhambra Music-Hall, was summoned at Marlborough-street, last Saturday, for having permitted the performance of stage plays without a license. There were eleven cases against the defendant, but a conviction took place on one summons only, the rest having been adjourned pending the experience of the future management of the Alhambra.

Mr. Burgess, a dispenser of medicine, residing in Dean-street, Soho, was, yesterday week, summoned at Marlborough-street for having improperly taken the title of doctor, thereby implying that he was registered under the Medical Act. Mr. Knox inflicted a penalty of £5.

At the Middlesex Sessions, on Tuesday, George Churchman pleaded guilty to having stolen £65 in Bank of England notes, and gold coins to the extent of £10, the property of the Earl of Kilmorey. He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, with hard labour.—Florence Smith, the governess who stole a quantity of jewellery from her employer, Mrs. Carruthers, of Finchley, was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

At Worship-street, on Tuesday, a man and his wife were each fined 10s. and the costs for having sent linen to the house of a laundress without having previously disinfected it. The linen had been worn by a person suffering from smallpox.

The Glasgow police have made a raid on the premises of Thomas MacCourt, watchmaker, in that city, and seized nearly 200 watches, thirty-five of which have been identified as having been stolen. The watches—many of which have been "doctored"—are being subjected to examination.

A telegram from Toronto says that the elections to the Manitoba Legislature passed off peaceably, and have resulted in a strong Government majority.

The Right Hon. W. E. Forster, M.P., addressed a crowded meeting of his constituents on Monday night, in St. George's Hall, Bradford, and met with a cordial reception. The war, Army reform, and education were the three principal topics alluded to in the course of an able speech, which occupied an hour and forty minutes in its delivery. Mr. Forster remarked that the War Minister's bill dealing with Army reform would probably prove the principal measure of the next Session, and took the opportunity of defending Mr. Cardwell from many of the charges brought against him. With reference to the education question, he expressed himself satisfied with the working of the new Act. A motion was carried disapproving of Mr. Forster's Education Bill of last Session, and the means adopted for carrying it through Parliament. His services in other respects were fully recognised.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS.

(From our City Correspondent.)

A fair amount of animation has been noticed in the Stock Exchange during the week, and the quotations have improved in many instances. The position of affairs on the Continent has not materially changed; but it is believed that Paris must soon succumb to the efforts of the besiegers, assisted by the still more potent influence of famine. Consols have been quiet, at 92½ to 92½; Reduced and New Three per Cents, 92½ to 92½; Bank Stock, 235 to 237; Exchequer Bills, 10s. to 10s. prem.; India Five per Cents, 110 to 110½; and India Bonds, 22s. to 27s. prem.

The market for English Railway Stocks has been firm. The principal feature has been a rather heavy advance in Brighton, in consequence of the announcement that the dividend will be at the rate of 1½ per cent. The other leading Stocks also have been firm. Indian Stocks have been steady. Canadian and Foreign Shares have been without important alteration. Caledonian, 87 to 87½; Great Eastern, 41 to 41½; Great Northern, A, 135½ to 136½; Great Western, 72½ to 72½; London and Brighton, 43 to 43½; London and North-Western, 130½ to 130½; London and South-Western, 92 to 93; Metropolitan, 66 to 66½; Midland, 129½ to 130½; North-Eastern, 145½ to 147½; and South-Eastern, 76 to 76½.

The Foreign Bond Market has been characterised by a fair amount of steadiness, and the tendency of prices has been generally favourable:—Argentine, 1868, are quoted at 90½ to 91½; Chilean, 1870, 89 to 91; Egyptian, 1868, 75½ to 76½; Ditto Government Railway Debentures, 99½ to 100½; Italian, 1861, 55½ to 56½; Mexican, 1857, 14 to 14½; Peruvian, 1865, 90 to 90½; Portuguese, 31½ to 32½; Russian, 1862, 84 to 85; Ditto, Anglo-Dutch, 89 to 91; Ditto, Nicolas Railway, 67 to 68; Ditto, 1870, 83½ to 84½; Spanish, 29½ to 30; Turkish, 1865, 59 to 60; Ditto, Five per Cents, 41½ to 42; Ditto, 1869, 51½ to 51½; United States 5-20, 1882, Bonds, 90½ to 90½; Ditto, 1885, 89½ to 89½; French Scrip, 8½ to 2½ dis.; and German, 1½ to 1½ prem.

For Bank Shares there has been a moderate demand, at full quotations. Imperial Ottoman, 1½ to 1½ prem.; London and County, 50 to 51; London Joint-Stock, 35½ to 36½; London and Westminster, 63½ to 64½; and Union of London, 37½ to 38½.

In the Telegraph Market the business doing has been only moderate. Anglo-American, 74 to 76; British Indian Submarine, 7 to 7½; British Indian Extension, 63 to 7; Palmonth, Gibraltar, and Malta, 9 to 9½; French Cables, 134 to 135; and West Indian and Panama, 4½ to 5½.

The demand for Miscellaneous Securities has been on a limited scale. Credit Foncier of England, 2½ to 2½; General Credit and Discount, ½ dis. to par; Hooper's Telegraph Works, 1½ to 1½ dis.; Hudson's Bay, 8½ to 8½; India-rubber, Gutta-Percha, and Telegraph Works, 48 to 49; Constructions, 24½ to 24½; and United Discount, ½ dis. to ½ prem.

In the Discount Market there has been a good supply of capital. The demand for accommodation has been rather more active, and three-months' paper has been charged 2 to 2½ per cent.

A moderate quantity of bullion has come to hand during the week. There has been a good export inquiry, and about £250,000 has been withdrawn from the Bank.

Silver has been firm. Pars are quoted at 60 9-16, and dollars at 50½ to 50½. There has been rather more demand for bills, and the rates have been lower.

Biddings for £400,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank on Thursday. The amount allotted was £399,000 to Calcutta, and £1000 to Bombay. The minimum price was fixed at 1s. 10d. Tenders at 1s. 10½d., both on Calcutta and Bombay will receive about 66 per cent.

At a meeting of the London and Westminster Bank a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, and a bonus of 6 per cent upon the paid-up capital of £2,000,000, were declared. After these payments are made there will remain £1630 5s. 4d., which the directors have carried to profit and loss account for the current half year.

At a meeting of the London Joint-Stock Bank it was shown that there was an available total of £110,293, including a previous balance of £4560, and a dividend was declared at the rate of 1½ per cent per annum, with a bonus of 8s. 9d. per share, making £1 7s. 6d. per share, leaving £293 to be carried forward. At the corresponding period of last year the total distribution was £1 3s. 3d. per share. The liabilities of the bank on deposits and acceptances are £17,315,027—an increase of £3,730,127, the paid-up capital is £1,200,000, and the reserve fund £427,829.

The report of the National Discount Company (Limited) to be presented on the 25th inst., shows an available total of 69,953, including a previous balance of £2497, and recommends a dividend at the rate of 17 per cent per annum, which will absorb £67,819 and leave £2139 to be carried forward.

At a meeting of the Metropolitan Bank (Limited) a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent per annum (the same as at the corresponding date of last year) was declared, and the appropriation of £5000 to reserve, leaving £1386 to be carried forward.

The report of Parr's Banking Company (Limited), at Warrington, shows for the past year a net profit of £32,672, which, added to the balance brought from 1869, enables the board to pay a dividend of 8 per cent per annum, to add £12,000 to the reserve fund, to pay the fifth instalment of the purchase money due to the late private firm, and carry forward £6700 to the present year.

The report of the North-Western Bank (Limited) to be presented at Liverpool on the 24th inst., recommends a dividend of 4s. 6d. per share, or at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, which will absorb £12,150, and the appropriation of £10,000 to reserve, leaving £2300 to be carried forward. At the corresponding date of last year the distribution was at the rate of 5 per cent per annum, and £20,000 was added to reserve. The paid-up capital is £405,000, the reserve is £40,000; the deposits held are £601,668, and the acceptances, &c., are £112,991.

The report of the British and Foreign Marine Insurance Company (Limited), to be presented on the 25th inst., recommends a dividend of 4s. per share and bonus of 6s., making 17½ per cent for the year, and leaving £34,919 to be added to reserve, which will then stand at £78,811.

The directors of the National Bank have declared a dividend at the rate of 7 per cent per annum, or 21s. per share, for the half year. The distribution at the corresponding period of last year was at the rate of 6 per cent per annum.

The London and San Francisco Bank (Limited) have invited subscriptions for 3,000,000 dol., first mortgage bonds of the Oregon and Californian Railway Company. The bonds are of 1000 dol., each, are issued at £154 2s. 6d. per £200, and bear interest at the rate of 7 per cent.

With regard to the payment of the half-yearly interest on the Bonds of the General Debt of the Ottoman Empire, it is officially announced that coupons not declared by the 28th inst. will be payable only at the Imperial Ottoman Bank at Constantinople.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The grain trade has ruled dull and inanimate throughout the week. On Monday the attendance of buyers at Mark-lane was small, and the transactions were restricted within very narrow limits. Prices gave way 1s. per quarter on both English and foreign wheat, but the decline was chiefly attributable to the falling off in the condition of the samples. Barley, beans, and peas ruled dull and drooping; but oats showed comparative firmness. The flour trade ruled quiet, with the exception of American barrels, which sold at an advance of 6d.

Arrivals this Week:—English and Scotch: Wheat, 200; barley, 730; malt, 400; beans, 270; peas, 80 qrs. Foreign: Oats, 2730 qrs.; flour, 4000 barrels.

English Currency.—Red wheat, 62s. to 64s.; white ditto, 55s. to 58s.; barley, 30s. to 45s.; malt, 50s. to 66s.; oats, 23s. to 28s.; beans, 41s. to 56s.; peas, 37s. to 42s., per qr.; flour, 34s. to 47s. per 280 lb.

Colonial Produce.—Sugar has continued firm in price throughout the week, though the demand has ruled less active. Dried refined goods are firm, but pieces close rather easier. Coffee has changed hands quietly, at about late rates. The tea auctions have gone off quietly. Rice is without change in value.

Hay and Straw.—The market to-day was fairly supplied with hay and clover. The inquiry was dull, but prices were without material change:—Prime meadow hay, 130s. to 140s.; inferior ditto, 110s. to 120s.; prime first-cut clover, 135s. to 145s.; inferior ditto, 115s. to 125s.; prime second-cut clover, 126s. to 135s.; inferior ditto, 105s. to 115s.; and straw, 30s. to 40s. per load.

Spirits.—Rum has sold at a decline of 1d. per gallon, but sales have been more extensive at the decline. Grain spirits are unaltered in price.

Hops.—There has been a moderate inquiry for hops, and prices have been well maintained for all descriptions.

Wool.—The market has ruled firm, and there has been a fair business transacted. The demand has run chiefly on choice qualities; but middle bugs have also been in request.

Oils.—Lined is quoted at 30s. to 30s. 3d.; English brown rapeseed, 46s. to 46s. 6d.; refined, 48s. to 48s. 6d.; foreign, 50s. to 50s. 6d. per cwt. Fish oils have ruled dull.

Tallow.—The market closed quietly, at 45s. 6d., spot; 46s., March; and 46s. 6d., October to December.

Coals.—East Wylam, 17s.; Hastings Hartley, 15s. 3d.; Holywell Main, 17s.; Wallsend Elliott, 17s. 3d.; Hutton, 18s.; Hutton Lyons, 15s. 6d.; and Tees 17s. 9d. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market (Thursday).—The Cattle Market to-day presented a very languid appearance. Influenced by the milder weather, the demand for all descriptions of stock was inactive, and prices throughout were very weak. There was a fair show of English beasts on sale, but the arrivals from abroad were very limited. The few sales effected were chiefly restricted to middling and inferior qualities, which were offered on easier terms. The best Scots and crosses sold at 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8 lb. There was a rather short supply of sheep in the pens, which changed hands slowly, at prices decidedly in purchasers' favour. Calves, although scarce, were in limited request, but prices were unchanged. Pigs were purchased quietly, at previous quotations.

Per 8 lb. to sink the offal:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; prime large oxen, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; prime Scots, &c., 6s. 10d. to 6s. 0d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; prime coarse-woolled sheep, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 8d.; prime Southdown ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s. 2d.; large coarse calves, 3s. 8s. to 4s. 4d.; prime small ditto, 5s. 0d. to 6s. 4d.; large hogs, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 2d.; neat small porkers, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 4d.; and quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 25s. each. Total supply:—English: Beasts, 785; sheep, 2900; calves, 40; pigs, 20. Foreign: Beasts, 155; sheep, 60; calves, 35.



THE LATE MR. GEORGE WILSON.



ARRIVAL OF PRUSSIAN SAILORS AT VERSAILLES.

"A SKETCH."

This small "Sketch" in water colours, which we have engraved from the Exhibition for the Benefit of the Distressed Peasantry of France, is by Louisa, Marchioness of Waterford, a lady known to possess rare natural gifts in art. Its peculiar merits may, nevertheless, be easily overlooked in the exhibition. But that it has peculiar merits will be apparent on examination. And that these merits are to be found in the treatment alone is evident, for the subject—a child holding a fan of peacock's feathers, and a green apple standing beside a parrot—is nothing. Yet we could defy any "expert" to discriminate this sketch, if unnamed, from one by a very skilful professional. A "sketch," whether by amateur or artist, is an incomplete work; but, if by the former, it can almost invariably be read at a glance as the full expression of imperfect knowledge; whereas, if by the latter, it will be deciphered as a kind of shorthand, pregnant with deeper and wider meanings and suggestions. In this case, however, the distinction entirely disappears. It is a study of colour, full of genuine artistic instinct, and such as a first-rate colourist would not be ashamed of. The combination of the crimson dress, peacock's feathers, apple, carpet, carrot, large-leaved plant, and the golden background in bold light and shade, is throughout truly artistic; and the feeling evinced for the subtler interchange of colour and for the semitones of chromatic harmony bespeaks a colourist faculty of quite exceptional endowment.

"RAISING THE WIND."

There are traits of genuine humour in the water-colour painting, by Mr. J. Henderson, which we engrave from the exhibition at the Gallery of the New British Institution, Old Bond-street. Whether the artist, who "hails" from Glasgow, be of English or of Scotch extraction, he certainly evinces in this, as, to some extent, in a former picture which we engraved, a sense of drollery that is not credited to the Scotch in general. Sidney Smith, we know, said that it required a surgical operation to get a joke into a Scotchman's head; but the truth is, that a cannie Scot's perception of humour merely differs from that of a sardonic Englishman as that of an hilarious Patlander differs from both. It cannot seriously be maintained that the land of Burns, and Scott, and Wilkie is deficient in the comic element. Nature is everywhere pretty nearly the same, and nature was evidently Mr. Henderson's model for the picture of this sea-urchin: it is plainly a study from the life. Who has not, as a boy, when the opportunity pre-



"A SKETCH," BY LOUISA, MARCHIONESS OF WATERFORD.

sented, made similar experiments in boat-building and nautical tactics? But whoever launched a toy-boat that did not come to grief? It was sure to be found that the "centre of equilibrium" had been misplaced, as we know it sometimes happens even with the most scientific of shipbuilders. In this case the boat appears to have capsized quite unaccountably, without the excuse of a gale, for the sails are wet, and without a flowing tide or breath of air they impede all progress. The boy thinks, however, he will be equal to the emergency, so he wades into the shallow water, and, like an infant Boreas, essays in the midst of the dead calm to "raise the wind" from his own lungs. The eager intentness in his stooping attitude, his violently-distended cheeks, and the sympathetic action of his hand are all capitally true to nature. As "children of a larger growth," have not some of us also tried to raise the wind when the bark of our fortunes has been becalmed and in danger of foundering? Our efforts, like those of the boy, may at the moment be unavailing, but with patience a breeze has sprung up sooner or later, and, in the words of the proverb, "it is an ill wind that blows luck to nobody."

The subject of metropolitan and suburban tramways occupied the Board of Works for a considerable time yesterday week. Eventually a resolution was carried adopting a report of the Parliamentary committee of the board, which recommended that consent be given to the construction of thirty-one lines of tramways radiating all over the suburbs and striking into some of the principal thoroughfares actually within the metropolis, and comprising sixty-five miles out of 158 miles, for the construction of which application has been made. Among the lines recommended were one from the Uxbridge-road, through Oxford-street to Holborn-bars; one from the Edgware-road railway station to the Marble Arch; one along the Marylebone, Euston, and Pentonville roads to the Angel, at Islington; one from the Hampstead-road, through Tottenham-court-road, to Oxford-street; from King's-cross to the City boundary at Farringdon-road; from Regent-circus, Piccadilly, along the Haymarket, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross, Whitehall-place, the Victoria Embankment, to Westminster; from Cremorne, Chelsea, along King's-road, to Sloane-square, and thence to Knightsbridge; along Victoria-street and the Broad Sanctuary, over Westminster Bridge, to a junction with the existing line in the Westminster-road; one from Battersea Park, through Wandsworth, Lambeth, the Albert Embankment, to Westminster-road; and one from the Obelisk in St. George's-circus, and over Waterloo Bridge, to the Strand.



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Elementary Collections, to facilitate the study of these interesting branches of Science, can be had at 2s. 5d., 2s. 10d., 3s., 4s., 5s., 6s., 7s., 8s., 9s., 10s., 11s., 12s., 13s., 14s., 15s., 16s., 17s., 18s., 19s., 20s., 21s., 22s., 23s., 24s., 25s., 26s., 27s., 28s., 29s., 30s., 31s., 32s., 33s., 34s., 35s., 36s., 37s., 38s., 39s., 40s., 41s., 42s., 43s., 44s., 45s., 46s., 47s., 48s., 49s., 50s., 51s., 52s., 53s., 54s., 55s., 56s., 57s., 58s., 59s., 60s., 61s., 62s., 63s., 64s., 65s., 66s., 67s., 68s., 69s., 70s., 71s., 72s., 73s., 74s., 75s., 76s., 77s., 78s., 79s., 80s., 81s., 82s., 83s., 84s., 85s., 86s., 87s., 88s., 89s., 90s., 91s., 92s., 93s., 94s., 95s., 96s., 97s., 98s., 99s., 100s., 101s., 102s., 103s., 104s., 105s., 106s., 107s., 108s., 109s., 110s., 111s., 112s., 113s., 114s., 115s., 116s., 117s., 118s., 119s., 120s., 121s., 122s., 123s., 124s., 125s., 126s., 127s., 128s., 129s., 130s., 131s., 132s., 133s., 134s., 135s., 136s., 137s., 138s., 139s., 140s., 141s., 142s., 143s., 144s., 145s., 146s., 147s., 148s., 149s., 150s., 151s., 152s., 153s., 154s., 155s., 156s., 157s., 158s., 159s., 160s., 161s., 162s., 163s., 164s., 165s., 166s., 167s., 168s., 169s., 170s., 171s., 172s., 173s., 174s., 175s., 176s., 177s., 178s., 179s., 180s., 181s., 182s., 183s., 184s., 185s., 186s., 187s., 188s., 189s., 190s., 191s., 192s., 193s., 194s., 195s., 196s., 197s., 198s., 199s., 200s., 201s., 202s., 203s., 204s., 205s., 206s., 207s., 208s., 209s., 210s., 211s., 212s., 213s., 214s., 215s., 216s., 217s., 218s., 219s., 220s., 221s., 222s., 223s., 224s., 225s., 226s., 227s., 228s., 229s., 230s., 231s., 232s., 233s., 234s., 235s., 236s., 237s., 238s., 239s., 240s., 241s., 242s., 243s., 244s., 245s., 246s., 247s., 248s., 249s., 250s., 251s., 252s., 253s., 254s., 255s., 256s., 257s., 258s., 259s., 260s., 261s., 262s., 263s., 264s., 265s., 266s., 267s., 268s., 269s., 270s., 271s., 272s., 273s., 274s., 275s., 276s., 277s., 278s., 279s., 280s., 281s., 282s., 283s., 284s., 285s., 286s., 287s., 288s., 289s., 290s., 291s., 292s., 293s., 294s., 295s., 296s., 297s., 298s., 299s., 300s., 301s., 302s., 303s., 304s., 305s., 306s., 307s., 308s., 309s., 310s., 311s., 312s., 313s., 314s., 315s., 316s., 317s., 318s., 319s., 320s., 321s., 322s., 323s., 324s., 325s., 326s., 327s., 328s., 329s., 330s., 331s., 332s., 333s., 334s., 335s., 336s., 337s., 338s., 339s., 340s., 341s., 342s., 343s., 344s., 345s., 346s., 347s., 348s., 349s., 350s., 351s., 352s., 353s., 354s., 355s., 356s., 357s., 358s., 359s., 360s., 361s., 362s., 363s., 364s., 365s., 366s., 367s., 368s., 369s., 370s., 371s., 372s., 373s., 374s., 375s., 376s., 377s., 378s., 379s., 380s., 381s., 382s., 383s., 384s., 385s., 386s., 387s., 388s., 389s., 390s., 391s., 392s., 393s., 394s., 395s., 396s., 397s., 398s., 399s., 400s., 401s., 402s., 403s., 404s., 405s., 406s., 407s., 408s., 409s., 410s., 411s., 412s., 413s., 414s., 415s., 416s., 417s., 418s., 419s., 420s., 421s., 422s., 423s., 424s., 425s., 426s., 427s., 428s., 429s., 430s., 431s., 432s., 433s., 434s., 435s., 436s., 437s., 438s., 439s., 440s., 441s., 442s., 443s., 444s., 445s., 446s., 447s., 448s., 449s., 450s., 451s., 452s., 453s., 454s., 455s., 456s., 457s., 458s., 459s., 460s., 461s., 462s., 463s., 464s., 465s., 466s., 467s., 468s., 469s., 470s., 471s., 472s., 473s., 474s., 475s., 476s., 477s., 478s., 479s., 480s., 481s., 482s., 483s., 484s., 485s., 486s., 487s., 488s., 489s., 490s., 491s., 492s., 493s., 494s., 495s., 496s., 497s., 498s., 499s., 500s., 501s., 502s., 503s., 504s., 505s., 506s., 507s., 508s., 509s., 510s., 511s., 512s., 513s., 514s., 515s., 516s., 517s., 518s., 519s., 520s., 521s., 522s., 523s., 524s., 525s., 526s., 527s., 528s., 529s., 530s., 531s., 532s., 533s., 534s., 535s., 536s., 537s., 538s., 539s., 540s., 541s., 542s., 543s., 544s., 545s., 546s., 547s., 548s., 549s., 550s., 551s., 552s., 553s., 554s., 555s., 556s., 557s., 558s., 559s., 560s., 561s., 562s., 563s., 564s., 565s., 566s., 567s., 568s., 569s., 570s., 571s., 572s., 573s., 574s., 575s., 576s., 577s., 578s., 579s., 580s., 581s., 582s., 583s., 584s., 585s., 586s., 587s., 588s., 589s., 590s., 591s., 592s., 593s., 594s., 595s., 596s., 597s., 598s., 599s., 600s., 601s., 602s., 603s., 604s., 605s., 606s., 607s., 608s., 609s., 610s., 611s., 612s., 613s., 614s., 615s., 616s., 617s., 618s., 619s., 620s., 621s., 622s., 623s., 624s., 625s., 626s., 627s., 628s., 629s., 630s., 631s., 632s., 633s., 634s., 635s., 636s., 637s., 638s., 639s., 640s., 641s., 642s., 643s., 644s., 645s., 646s., 647s., 648s., 649s., 650s., 651s., 652s., 653s., 654s., 655s., 656s., 657s., 658s., 659s., 660s., 661s., 662s., 663s., 664s., 665s., 666s., 667s., 668s., 669s., 670s., 671s., 672s., 673s., 674s., 675s., 676s., 677s., 678s., 679s., 680s., 681s., 682s., 683s., 684s., 685s., 686s., 687s., 688s., 689s., 690s., 691s., 692s., 693s., 694s., 695s., 696s., 697s., 698s., 699s., 700s., 701s., 702s., 703s., 704s., 705s., 706s., 707s., 708s., 709s., 710s., 711s., 712s.,

WAR PANIC.

CONSIGNMENT EXTRAORDINARY, valued at £27,000.
198, Regent-street.
In fulfilment of the "Pronouncement" which we issued a few days back, we have now to inform our Patrons that the immense consignment of Foreign Silks has been marked off at prices in accordance with our promise. By their kindly favouring us with a visit of inspection, they will be embracing an opportunity which we respectfully suggest will be highly advantageous to them.
BAKER and CRISP.

WAR PANIC.

CAUTION.
The frightful consequences of the war on the Continent have, in many instances than one, been made the pretence upon which to effect the sale of Silks that were never nearer to France than London; thus, we are necessitated to caution Ladies to be assured that they are really buying goods actually consigned from Paris and Lyons by the Manufacturers to us, in consequence of the unfortunate state of affairs in those cities.
Patterns free.—BAKER and CRISP.

WAR PANIC.

In this very extensive collection of goods, the very best qualities of Black Silks—such as the Cachemire de Soie, the Drap de France, the Drap de Lyons, the Poul de Soie, the Grosgrain de Lyons—will be found marked down to nearly half the value.
BAKER and CRISP.

WAR PANIC.

£2300 worth of Evening Silks, from 1 guinea to 5s. Full Dress.
£2300 worth of Lyons Brocade, striped, checked, and fancy Silks, from 1 guinea to 10s. Full Dress, all half price.
£1150 worth of Lyons Silk Velvets, for robes, mantles, jackets, &c., from 4s. 9d. to 17s. per yard; only half the value.
£1260 worth of Japanese Silks, in every shade of colour, including blacks and whites, 25s. 6d. Full Dress; usually sold at 2s.

BAKER and CRISP beg to offer the

following few quotations as a guide to the specialties above referred to:—
No. 1. New Parallel Striped Silks, Lyons .. 23s. 6d. Full Dress.
2. New Diagonal, Do. .. 23s. 6d. "
3. Rich Japanese Silks, Do. .. 23s. 6d. "
4. Some marvels in Fancy Silks, Lyons .. 35s. 6d. "
5. Wedding and Evening Silks .. 30s. 6d. "
6. Chinese Satins .. 24s. 6d. "
7. Lyons Satins .. 39s. 6d. "
8. Second, Slit, and Complimentary Mourning Silks .. 35s. 6d. "
9. Brocade de Lyons .. 35s. 6d. "
10. Moire Antiques, Lyons .. 55s. to 75s. 6d. "
11. Moire Antiques, in beautiful light tints, for Dinner or Evening Costume, worth 6s. 6d. .. 55s. 6d. "
Richest Poul de Soie .. 52s. 6d., 3s. to 4s. "
Patterns free.—198, Regent-street.

WAR PANIC.

An Immense Accumulation of ODD SILK DRESSES, all of which were made for this Season's trade. For example:—
A Lot of Length of 10 yards in each, for .. 21s. 6d. 25s. 6d. 29s. 6d. and 36s. 6d.
12 yards in each, for .. 27s. 6d. 31s. 6d. 35s. 6d. and 42s. 6d.
14 yards in each, for .. 33s. 6d. 37s. 6d. 41s. 6d. and 48s. 6d.
16 yards in each, for .. 39s. 6d. 43s. 6d. 47s. 6d. and 54s. 6d.
Sent for P. O. Order to BAKER and CRISP.

WAR PANIC.

LYONS SILK VELVETS form a very prominent feature in this Stock, and we feel assured that Ladies will duly appreciate the advantage offered in this most unusual Sale—viz: we shall offer Silk Velvets, £2 10s., £3 7s. 6d., £4 10s., £5 5s., 7s. 6d. the Full Dress.

WAR PANIC.

Good serviceable Black Glacé Silks .. 22s. 6d. Full Dress.
Wide-Width Glacé, rich and bright .. 35s. 6d. "
Rich Glacé Silks, wide width .. 35s. 6d. "
Beautiful Glossy Silks, three quarters wide .. 30s. 6d. "
Brilliant Gros de Lyons, extra wide .. 47s. 6d. "
Superb Gros de France, supple as floss silk, yet firm and rich in quality .. 55s. 6d. "
Rich Silk Velvets .. 59s. 6d. "
Rich Gamoé Velvets .. 75s. 6d. "
340 Pieces Black Velveteens, in Full-Dress Lengths, 15s., 17s. 6d., 25s. 6d., and 35s. 6d. each.
Patterns free.—BAKER and CRISP.

BAKER and CRISP'S.

THE CONTINENTAL WAR.
FRENCH CURTAINS, CAMBRIC HANDKERCHIEFS, &c., on Sale during the Week.
Drawing and Dining Room French Leno Curtains, suitable for the Palace, Mansion, Hotel, or Villa, in the most beautiful Designs, 13s. 9d., 15s. 6d., and 1 guinea the pair.—N.B. These goods will be worth double in three months' time.
Cambric Handkerchiefs.—A Cambric and a Mulhouse Manufacturers' Stock of these goods have been cleared the Custom House by Baker and Crisp; and certainly if it were not for the state of affairs in France the prices would have been nearly double. For instance:—
Lots 1 to 5, Ladies' fine Cambric, 2s. 9d., 4s. 9d., 5s. 9d., and 6s. 9d. the dozen.
Lots 6 to 10, Ladies' very fine ditto, 7s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 15s., and 21s. the dozen.
Lots 11 to 20, Ladies' Hemmed Stitch, 5s. 6d., 6s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 8s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 15s., 21s., 25s., 35s. to 50s. the dozen.
Lots 21 to 30, Gentlemen's Cambric, 3s. 6d., 4s. 6d., 5s. 6d., 6s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 8s. 6d., 10s. 6d., and the half dozen.
Lots 31 to 40, Ladies' China Grass, 4s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 6s. 6d. the half dozen.
Lots 41 to 50 are all slightly soiled, all marked down to half price.
Lots 51 to 70, Richly embroidered, lace-trimmed, and other first-class style of Handkerchiefs, including the Madeira, as worked by the Nuns, 4s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. the half dozen, and 10s. 6d. and 15s. 6d. each.
Berlin Wool Worked Slippers, 1s. 6d.
These goods are specially adapted to schools, shopkeepers, &c.
Groups for Cushtons, &c., from 2s. 6d.
Hearth Rugs and Fendal Stools, 1s. 6d., worth 25s. 6d.
Sent free for four extra stamps.—Baker and Crisp.

THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR.

CONSIGNMENT OF GERMAN DRESS FABRICS.
Drap de Satine, a beautiful bright material and very durable, makes up equal to silk, in every shade, from 10s. 6d. to 25s. the Dress.
Wool and Silk Serge Cloths, 7s. 11d. to 25s. 6d. Full Dress.
Wool and Silk Repps, Roubaix and Coutil Cloths, 7s. 11d. to 25s. Full Dress.
Silk Repps, all pure silk, best quality, 27s. 6d.
Lorraine and Alsace Cloths, German Cashmerettes, from 8s. 9d. to 30s. the Dress.
N.B. All the above goods, valued at over £2000, are priced quoted at half the retail value.
Also, Winter Dresses, London Ribbed Cloth, 10s. 6d. and 15s. the Dress.
Kirtle Tartans, Clan Repps, Heather Tweeds, and Tullochgum Costume Cloths, 8s. 9d. to 25s.
French Merinos, nearly 100 shades of Colour, from 1s. 9d. to 2s. 6d. yard.
Wool Plaids, 12 yard wide, 3s. 9d. yard; every Clan.
Irish Poplins, every Colour, richest quality, 57s. 6d. Full Dress.
Miscellaneous Fabrics, comprising about 5000 Dresses, from 5s. 9d. to 35s. the Full Dress.
Bundles of 50 yards odds and ends, rummage lots of useful Materials, in lengths varying from 6 to 10 yards, from 17s. 6d. to 50s. lot being about only one quarter the value.
CHARITIES.—Aberdeen Wines, Linsey Woolseys, in pieces of from 50 to 60 yards each, for 25s., 27s., and 35s.
The generalities in this Department are:—
1. A Lot of Odd Lengths, 8 yards each, for 2s. 11d., 3s. 11d., 5s. 9d., and 7s. 6d. each.
2. A Lot of Odd Lengths, 10 yards each, for 3s. 11d., 4s. 11d., 5s. 11d., and 6s. 11d. each.
3. A Lot of Odd Lengths, 12 yards each, for 4s. 11d., 5s. 11d., 7s. 6d., 8s. 9d., and 10s. 6d. each.
4. A Lot of Odd Lengths, 14 yards each, for 6s. 6d., 7s. 9d., 8s. 9d., 9s. 6d., 10s. 6d., and 21s. each.
Sent for Remittance to BAKER and CRISP, 198, Regent-street.

WAR PANIC.

The next Division is that appropriated to the Stock of PRINTED CAMBRICS, Pique, Brillantes, Organdies, Tartans, Grenadines, Muslins, &c., containing, amongst a profusion of notabilities:—
1stly. An extraordinary lot of beautiful Cambrics, at .. 0s. 5d. yard.
2ndly. A lot of very superior quality ditto, at .. 0s. 6d. "
3rdly. Superb Brillantes, usually 1s., all at .. 0s. 7d. "
4thly. The Brillantes de Pompadour, all at .. 0s. 9d. "
5thly. Best quality Pique (all for 2s. 8d.), all at .. 1s. 6d. "
6thly. The Pique Blanc (for Morning Dress) .. 4s. 6d., 6s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. Dress.
7thly. New Pattern Percales .. 4s. 9d. "
8thly. Jaconets de Soie .. 2s. 11d., 3s. 11d., 4s. 9d. "
9thly. Organist Superbe (for Evening wear) .. 6s. 6d., 8s. 9d., and 10s. 6d. "
10thly. A host of Tartans (worth 8s. 9d.) .. 3s. 11d. "
11thly. The noted Gaze de Chambrays (very elegant) .. 10s. 6d. to 25s. 6d. "
12thly. Beautiful specimens of Embroidered Muslins .. 5s. 11d. "
200 White Embroidered Muslin and Grenadine Robes, 7s. 6d., 12s. 6d., and 21s. "
BAKER and CRISP, 198, Regent-street.

WAR PANIC.

£2000 worth of the highest-class Table Linens, Diapers, Sheetings, Towellings, &c.
BAKER and CRISP, 198, Regent-street, London.

WAR PANIC.

By SPECIAL APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF ENGLAND, H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES, H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE.
£3 17s. 6d.—Messrs. JAY have amongst their Stock recently purchased at Lyons some BLACK SILKS, at 2s. 6d. each, but finding by long experience that their customers usually purchase good Black Silks, they recommend those at £3 17s. 6d. the Dress, at the same time believing that they will wear well.
Patterns free in all qualities. JAYS.

WAR PANIC.

£3 7s. 6d.—NEUTRAL SHADES in Grey, Violet, and Slate Colours, for Dinner or Promenade. Very cheap Lyons Silks. Patterns free. JAYS.

WAR PANIC.

2½ GUINEAS for SPRING DRESS, all SILK.—Black-Ground Lyons Silk, with narrow White raised or canelle Stripes, 14 yards, 2½ guineas the Dress. Patterns free. JAYS.

WAR PANIC.

DRESSES for EVENING. Messrs. JAY confidently invite attention to their present Stock of EVENING DRESSES. Black and Black and White TULL SKIRTS, of the most fashionable kinds, are kept ready for immediate wear; and any of which can be made up in a few hours by French or English dressmakers employed at JAYS.

WAR PANIC.

J A N U S C O R D. Ladies who at this season of the year choose to wear Black Dresses will find JANUS CORD, at 1½ guinea the Dress, one of the most economical and best fabrics manufactured for Ladies' Dresses. JAYS.

WAR PANIC.

MOURNING.—Messrs. JAY have always at command experienced Dressmakers and Milliners who act as travellers, so that, in the event of immediate Mourning being required, or any other sudden emergency for Dress, one can be dispatched to any part of the kingdom on receipt of letter or telegram, without any expense whatever to the purchaser. All articles are marked in plain figures, and charges are the same as if the goods were bought for ready money at the warehouse in Regent-street. Messrs. Jay, having adopted a fixed tariff, publish the following epitome of their charges for DRESSMAKING. Making Dress, with plain Skirt .. 10s. 6d. Making Dress, with Tucks of Crapè or Fancy Trim-mings .. from 14s. 6d. Making Bodice and Mounting Skirt into band .. 7s. 6d. Making Bodice and Mounting Skirt into band .. 7s. 6d. Making Bodice and Mounting Skirt into band .. 7s. 6d. Mounting Skirt into band, with Alpaca Pocket .. 1s. 6d. Mounting ditto ditto, with Black Silk Pocket .. 2s. 6d. Mounting ditto ditto, without Pocket .. 1s. 6d. Silk Body Lining .. 5s. 6d. Silk Sleeve Lining .. 5s. 6d. Silk Low Body and Sleeve Lining .. 5s. 6d. Lawn Body Lining .. 1s. 6d. Sleeve Lining .. 1s. 6d. Silk Facing .. 1s. 10d. Peterham Ribbon, for banding .. 8s. 8d. Peterham Waistband, Covered Crapè and Rosettes .. 2s. 6d. Making Garibaldi .. 6s. 6d. Making Low Bodice .. 6s. 6d. Sundries .. 1s. 6d. Tucker, Braid, and Trimmings extra. The Lyons General Mourning Warehouse, 247, 249, and 251, Regent-street.

WAR PANIC.

GASK and GASK'S ANNUAL SALE of SURPLUS GOODS, at Reduced Prices. Fancy and Plain Silks, Odd Dress Lengths, Black Silks, Shawls; Velvet, Cloth, and Sealskin Mantles; Lace and Fancy Goods, Hosiery, Gentlemen's Ties, &c.; Furs, Soiled Table Linen and Sheetings, &c., all much cheaper. Bonnets, Hats, Flowers, Remnants, and all Fancy Articles at very low prices. 58 to 62, Oxford-street; 3 to 5, Wells-street, London.

WAR PANIC.

SILK COSTUMES and LONG SKIRTS. Costumes in Woolen and Mixed Fabrics, Velveteen and Shawl Costumes, Waterproofs, &c., a very large assortment, all ready for immediate wear, at greatly reduced prices. Photographs of Shawl Costumes, &c., free. GASK and GASK'S Annual Sale, 58 to 62, Oxford-street; 3 to 5, Wells-street.

WAR PANIC.

FRENCH SATINE CLOTHS Reduced to 11d. per yard, all Colours. Woolen and Silk Repps, Serges, Cashmeres, and all Winter Dress Fabrics at greatly reduced prices. Elder-Down Petticoats and Quilts, Flannels, Blankets, &c. Patterns forwarded free. GASK and GASK'S Annual Sale, 58 to 62, Oxford-street; 3 to 5, Wells-street, London.

WAR PANIC.

BALL and EVENING DRESSES. GASK and GASK have purchased at extraordinarily low prices a large quantity of handsome White and Black Silk Tulle, and Tartan Dresses, which they now offer during their Sale at 18s. 9d., 21s., and 25s., being little more than ONE HALF the usual prices. SKETCHES FREE of BALL and EVENING DRESSES. 58 to 62, Oxford-street; 3 to 5, Wells-street, London.

WAR PANIC.

An IMMENSE PURCHASE of BLACK SILKS and BLACK SILK VELVETS, just received from Lyons, and selling at Two Thirds their usual value. Lot 1. Excellent Black Corded Silks, at 2s. 11d., or 2 guineas 14 yds. Lot 2. Good Black Gros Grain, .. at 4s. 6d., or 3 guineas 14 yds. Lot 3. ditto ditto .. at 5s. 6d., or 3 17s. 6d. 14 yds. Lot 4. ditto ditto .. at 6s. 9d., or 24 14s. 6d. 14 yds. Lot 5. Rich Cashmere Silks .. at 7s. 6d., or 5 guineas 14 yds. Lot 6. ditto ditto .. at 8s. 6d., or 25 19s. 6d. 14 yds. Lot 7. ditto ditto .. at 10s. 6d., or 7 guineas 14 yds. If a whole Piece is purchased, a further reduction will be made. HIGH LYONS SILK VELVETS, at 7, 8, 9, and 10s. Full Dress. Address for Patterns: PETER ROBINSON, Mourning Warehouse, 256, Regent-street, London.

WAR PANIC.

INEXPENSIVE MOURNING, as well as the Richest Qualities, can be supplied by PETER ROBINSON, upon the most advantageous terms, to Families. The Court and Family Mourning Warehouse, 256, 258, 260, 262, Regent-street, London.

WAR PANIC.

MOURNING for FAMILIES, IN CORRECT TASTE, can be purchased at PETER ROBINSON'S, of Regent-street, at a great saving in price. SKIRTS in new Mourning Fabrics, trimmed Crapè, 35s. to 5s. SILK SKIRTS, for Afternoon or Dinner Dress, elegantly trimmed, 5s. to 10s. MANTLES, in the newest shapes, handsomely trimmed, 35s. to 9s. BONNETS, in beautiful variety, 15s. to 2s. WIDOWS' CAPS, in various new styles.

WAR PANIC.

FREE OF CHARGE.—MOURNING. Goods are sent free of charge, for selection, to all parts of England (with Dressmaker, if desired) upon receipt of letter, order, or telegram; and Patterns are sent, with Book of Illustrations, to all parts of the world. DRESSMAKING. Making Plain Dress, 9s. 6d. Making Trimmed Dress, from 10s. 6d. to 12s. 6d., without expensive Sundries. The highest talent is employed in this department, and large Orders are executed at the shortest notice. Peter Robinson's General Mourning Warehouse, 256, 258, 260, and 262, Regent-street. The Largest Mourning Warehouse in London.

WAR PANIC.

EVENING DRESSES. PETER ROBINSON supplies a Handsome Black Brussels Net Dress for 27s. 6d., elegantly trimmed with Black or White Satin and Lace. Carriage-free to any part of England. He has also a variety of Handsome Novelties in Tulle and Lace Dresses, from 2s. to 4s., and Tartan, White or Black, for a guinea. Sketches free by post. Peter Robinson's Mourning Warehouse, 256, Regent-street, London.

WAR PANIC.

P. LILLICRAPP (by Appointment to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales), 27, Davies-street, Berkeley-square, Sealskin Jacket and Cloak Maker and General Furrier.

WAR PANIC.

AN OPPORTUNITY OF BUYING BEST PRINTED FRENCH MUSLINS Very Cheap. Special Sale of over 2000 Pieces, in every variety of design and colour, suitable for Dinner, Evening, or Summer Wear, at 5d. to 7d. per yard. Patterns free.

WAR PANIC.

IN EVERY VARIETY OF FABRIC. CHEAP and USEFUL DRESSES. New ready, a complete Collection of New Fabrics, 10s. 6d. to 25s. the Dress.

WAR PANIC.

SPECIAL NOVELTIES FOR LADIES' RICH WINTER DRESSES. Velvet Pile, Silk Poplin, in thirty shades. Drap de Dames, Terry Silk Poplins, Popeline de Suez (Silk), Drap d'Italie, &c. A grand Collection of Patterns, 25s. to 34s. the Dress.

WAR PANIC.

IN BLACK, WHITE, and ALL COLOURS. VELVET—VELVETEENS. Very Rich. Specially adapted for Ladies' Costumes, Jackets, &c. Patterns free. From 2s. 9d. to 6s. 6d. per yard.

WAR PANIC.

FOR DINNER and EVENING DRESSES. POIL DE CHEVRE. Half Price. 350 pieces of this beautiful Fabric, having all the appearance of rich Glacé Silk, 18s. 9d. the Full Dress, can be had in brilliant shades of Light Blue, Malice, Vert Lumière, Ponceau, Grey, Mauve, Orange, Rose, &c.

WAR PANIC.

TARLATANS and GRENADINES FOR BALL and DINNER DRESSES. Gold and Silver Tarlatans, in Stars, Figures, and Stripes; and Grenadines in every variety of style and colour. A full assortment of patterns post-free.

WAR PANIC.

FOR WEDDING or EVENING DRESSES. GLACÉ JAPANESE SILKS, in White, Rose, Silver-Grey, Mauve, Ponceau, Vert-Lumière, &c. Any number of Dresses, same Colour, at 35s. the Dress. The best quality manufactured.

WAR PANIC.

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